

A Fenland History Saver Shares All – Mike Petty, April 2022



Stretham is a village on the former Island of Ely, twelve miles north of Cambridge



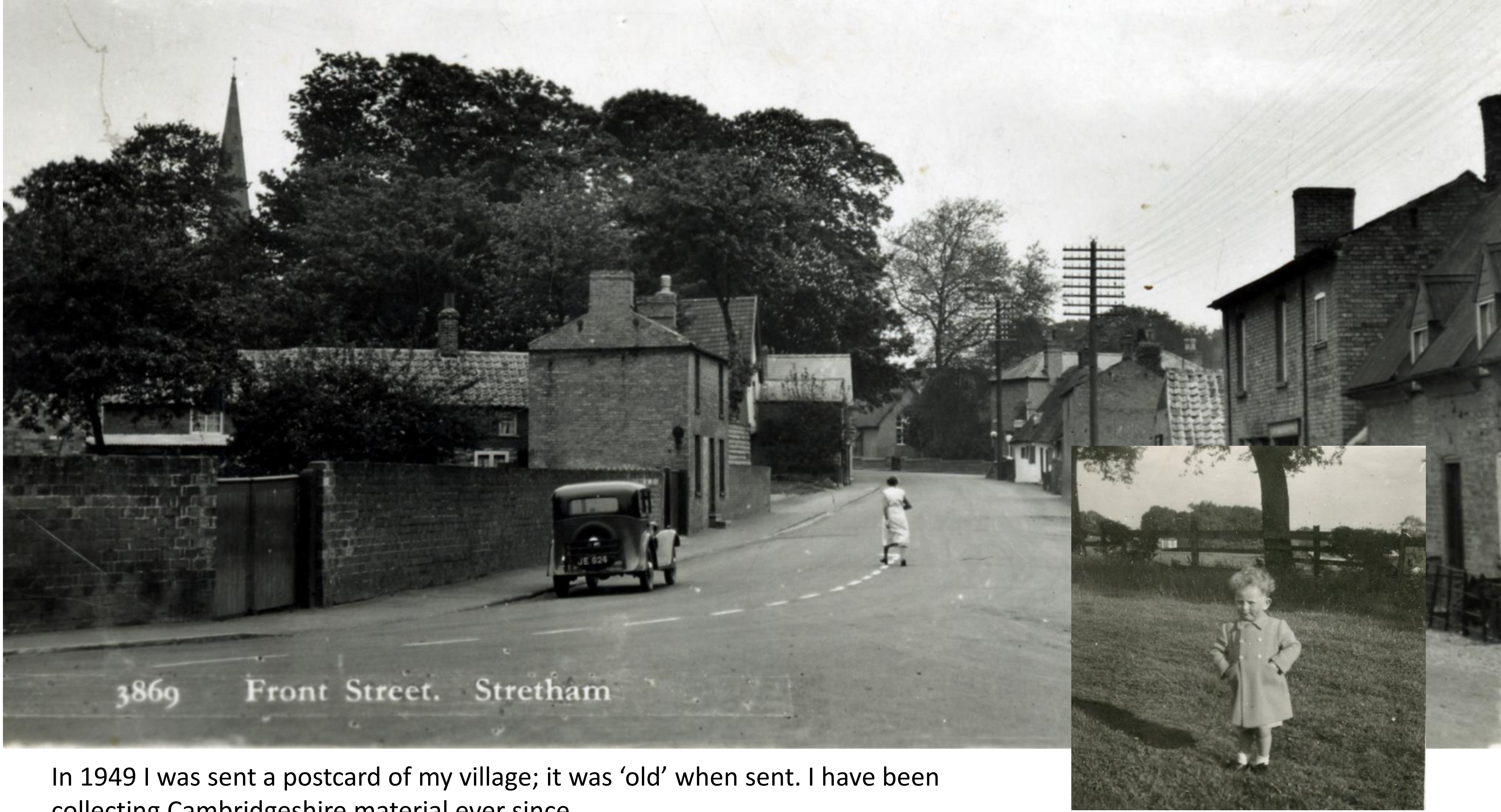
From my desk in Stretham I look across to two of the village's large houses – it is a view unknown to others



Between me and that view is a computer screen.
On that computer I can view hundreds of books, 100 years of newspapers, thousands of pictures and much more relating to Cambridgeshire.

Virtually everything on my screen can also be found on whatever device you are viewing.

It is my library on your laptop.



In 1949 I was sent a postcard of my village; it was ‘old’ when sent. I have been collecting Cambridgeshire material ever since.

Seagate Stretham (G:) > Stretham Photos > High St S cat

Search High St S cat


MP0055a


mp0055b


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Today that postcard can be viewed and downloaded by every child in the village, together with over 4,000 other imageshttps://photos.app.goo.gl/FLZcw9CLY2pXcjtx5


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THE HISTORY

OF THE

PARISH OF STRETHAM,

In the County of Cambridgeshire.

A LECTURE

GIVEN TO THE

Stretham Branch of the Women's Institute, on October 3rd, 1922.

BY

Rev. S. Stewart Stitt, M.A.

Formerly Scholar of Pembroke College,
— Cambridge, Rector of Stretham. —

PRICE 4D.

The Proceeds of the Sale will be given to the Organ Fund.

FRIDAY, The Cambridgeshire Times OCTOBER 2

HISTORY OF STRETHAM.

Interesting Account by the Rev. S. S. Stitt.

ANCIENT RECORD.

An extremely interesting account of the history of Stretham was given recently by the Rector of the Parish (the Rev. S. Stewart Stitt) in a lecture to the local branch of the Women's Institute ,and is now published as a booklet at the price of 4d. in aid of the Church organ fund.

The writer begins by explaining the meaning of the name Stretham—"Street Hame," or "Home at the Street." He carires his readers back in imagination to the time when huge Mammoth elephants tramped over the Fens and enormous winged lizards terrified the ancient dwellers, and draws a mental picture of Stretham in the days when the Roman legions controlled our land. Proceeding, he says :—

'The Akeman Street was a Roman Road leading out from Cambridge ...

... times owing to the flooded fenlands, for there is documentary evidence that in those times the way to Ely from Cambridge was by way of Aldreth High Bridge. About half a mile North of the 61 Milestone, at a spot called Stretham Field Gate, on the old 1836 Survey Map the ridge of the road became distinctly visible on the right of the present road and was plain until well into the Village of Stretham, whence it crossed the South Eastern corner of the Grass Field near the Cricket Field, then the Wilburton Road to the South-East corner of the Ten Acre Field, and joined the Ely Road by the Mill Way. Thence it ran in a straight line across the Eastern end of Grunty Fen ...

This brass, stripped of the brass canopies, has now been placed in the South Chapel of the present Church. It has a peculiar interest, as we are told the head dress or wimple is the earliest representation of a square one, (probably they had just begun to have a knowledge of starch) and the wedding ring is on the right hand, which we are told was in accordance with the usage of the Sarum Rite.

Dame Joan Swan was the mother of John and Richard Ryplingham, who were Rectors of Stretham in 1488. John held the benefice for only a few months ,apparently having received other preferment, as we read of one John Ryplingham, D.D., Rector of St. Martin's, Vintry, who died about 1519. He was succeeded in the said Church of St. Martin in 1508 by one Ralph Ryplingham, who had for his predecessor;—two others intervening, one William Swan, who died about 1456, and who probably was the husband of Dame Joan.

At the foot of the Altar steps in the north wall is a raised tomb under an arch with a Lombardic inscription : "Nichol de Kynbstone : gyst icci, Dieux de Salme : eit : merci : Amen."

Nicholas de Kingston was probably Rector in the time of Edward I, and Founder of the Chancel.

There was another coat of Arms, or probably a hatchment in this part of the Church ...

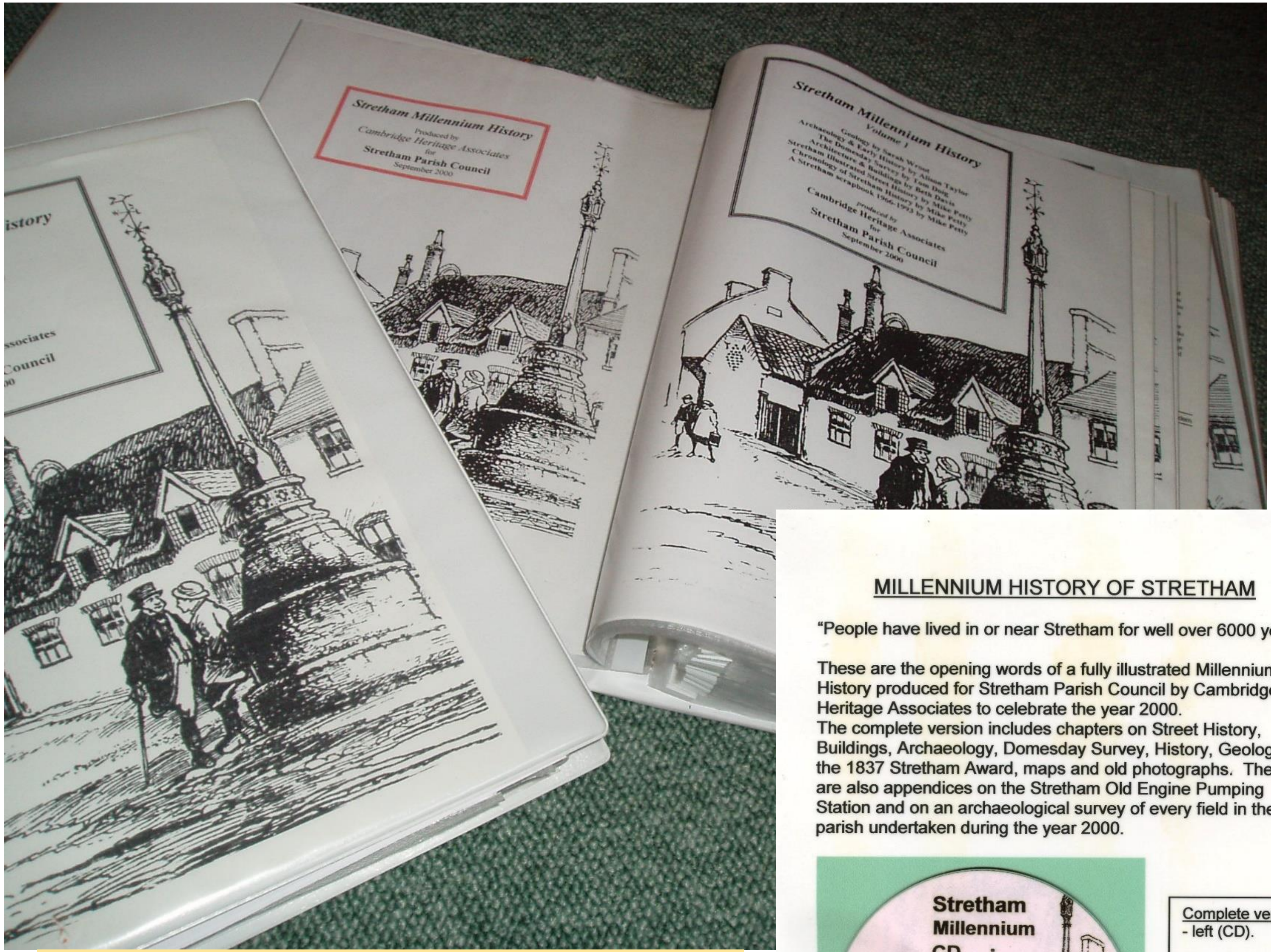
... Armorial Bearings which formerly decorated it, were even then lost.

There was a table of Benefactors over that Altar, which was put up by Mr. Thomas, who was Rector in 1727, and whose tombstone is down on the South Side of the Altar.

Up to the Restoration of the Church in 1876 there was a double piscina of rich carving; but it, too, had gone, and the record of its being there is fast becoming an ancient memory.

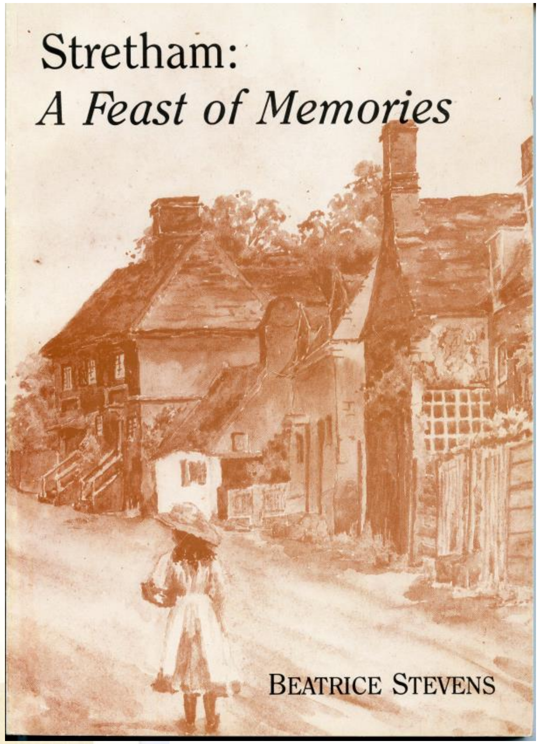
In 1866 the steeple was repaired, and a new weather cock put up. On November 28th, 1910, a steeplejack went up to the top of the steeple and brought the weather cock down. ...

While I was at School the Headmaster arranged for a lecture by a previous vicar to be retyped by the County Librarian's Secretary. Today the original is online



https://archive.org/details/StrethamMillenniumHistoryMikePetty2015

https://flic.kr/s/aHskRK2dgU



MILLENNIUM HISTORY OF STRETHAM

"People have lived in or near Stretham for well over 6000 years"

These are the opening words of a fully illustrated Millennium History produced for Stretham Parish Council by Cambridge Heritage Associates to celebrate the year 2000.
The complete version includes chapters on Street History, Buildings, Archaeology, Domesday Survey, History, Geology, the 1837 Stretham Award, maps and old photographs. There are also appendices on the Stretham Old Engine Pumping Station and on an archaeological survey of every field in the parish undertaken during the year 2000.



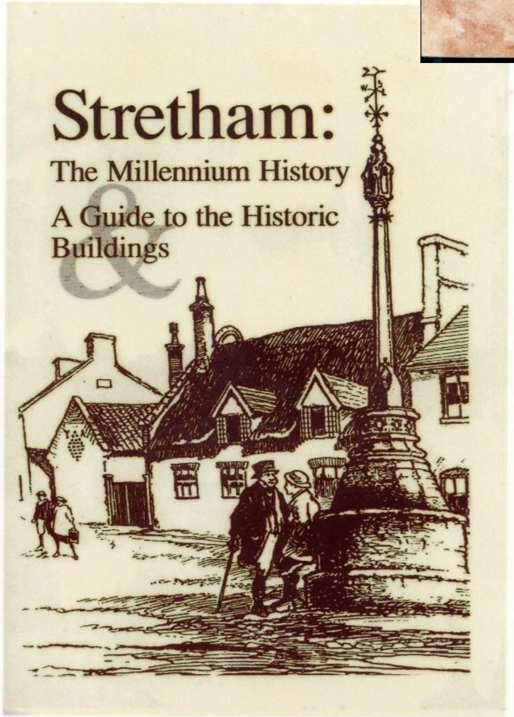
Complete version
- left (CD).

Price: £10-00

Abridged version
- right. 36 pages
A5 booklet

Price: £2-50

Obtainable here

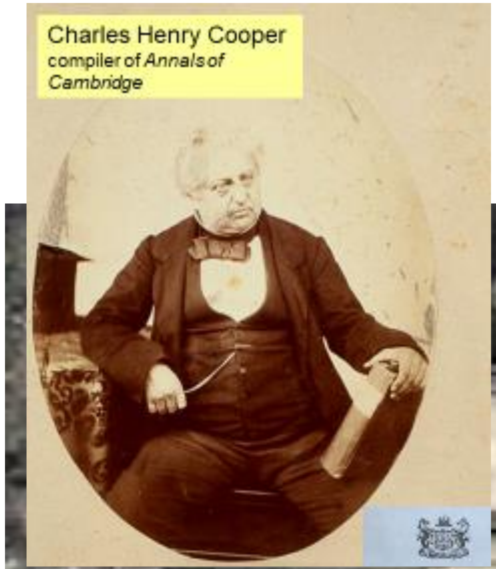


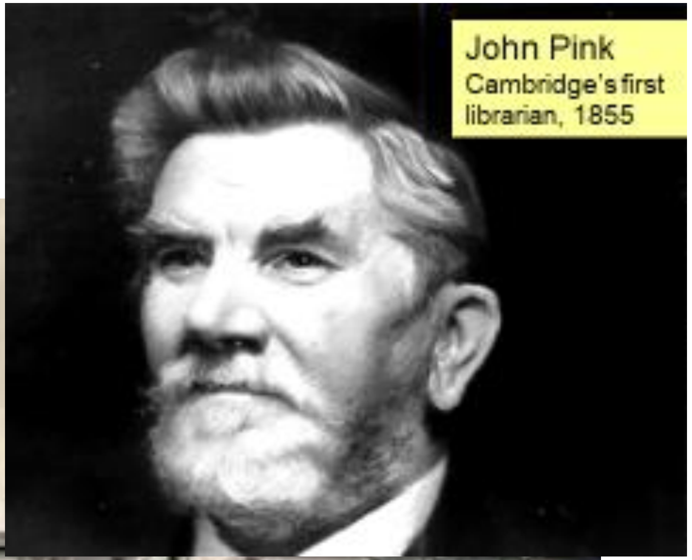
There are now also other histories on every computer, tablet, laptop or mobile phone





At Soham Grammar School Library I found other books I could read. I got a job at Cambridge City Library where there were many more – books that could be taken home

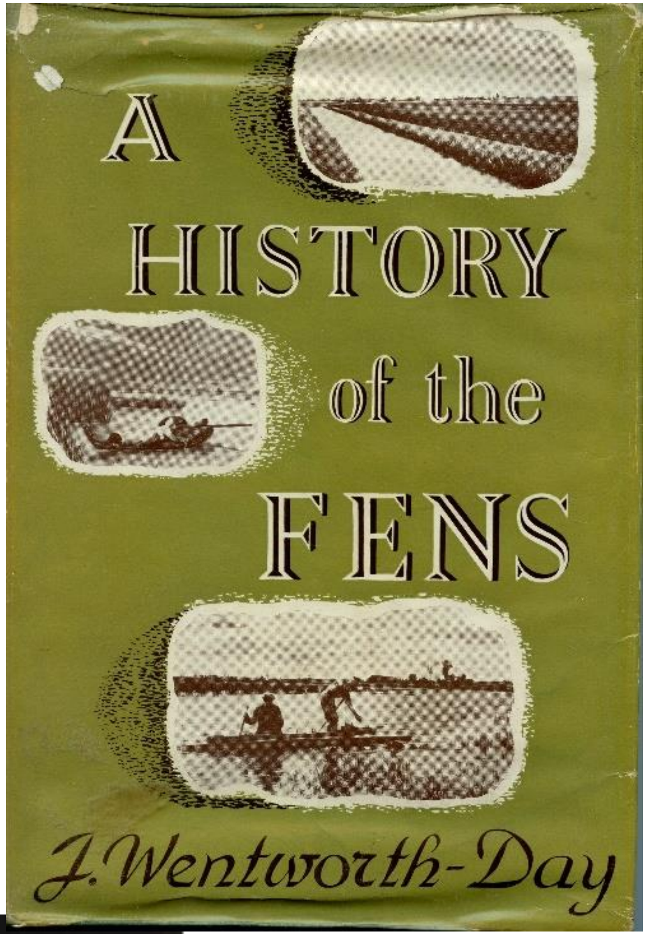






That library had been started in 1855 and from the first had tried to collect everything published about Cambridge and Cambridgeshire.







That Cambridgeshire material was by 1964 hidden away in a back room, largely forgotten. Over a period of ten years I read and catalogued each book and pamphlet

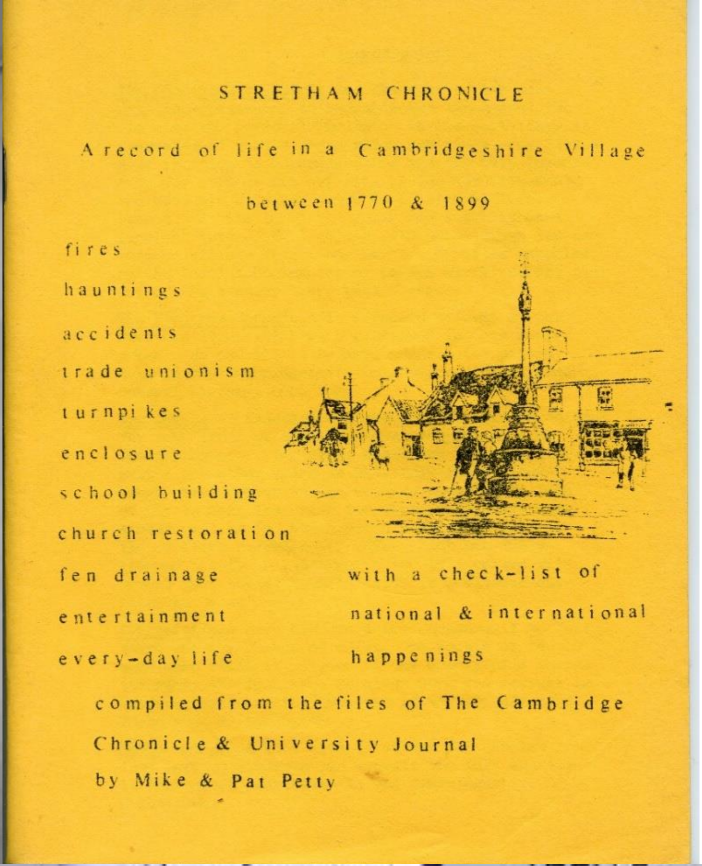
Haddenham WEA prompted an idea to index the Stretham news reported in the Cambridge Chronicle.

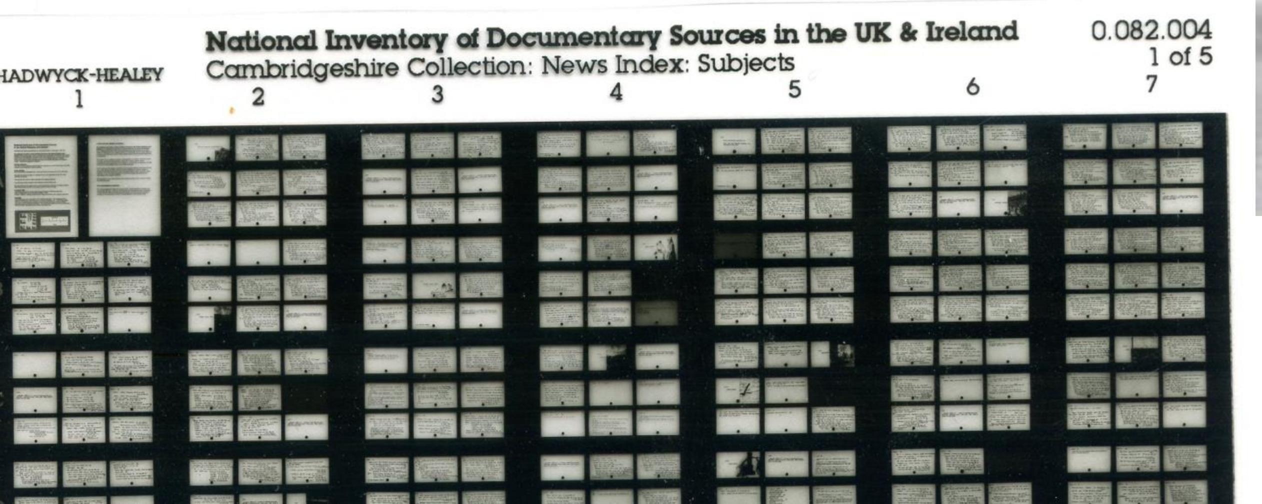
https://archive.org/details/StrethamChronicleAndScrapbook17702018

Other volunteers enabled the news for every Cambridgeshire village in the Cambridge Chronicle from 1770 to 1899 to be indexed. The index was included in the *National Inventory of Documentary Sources.*

Many stories were transcribed and published in ‘Village Chronicles’

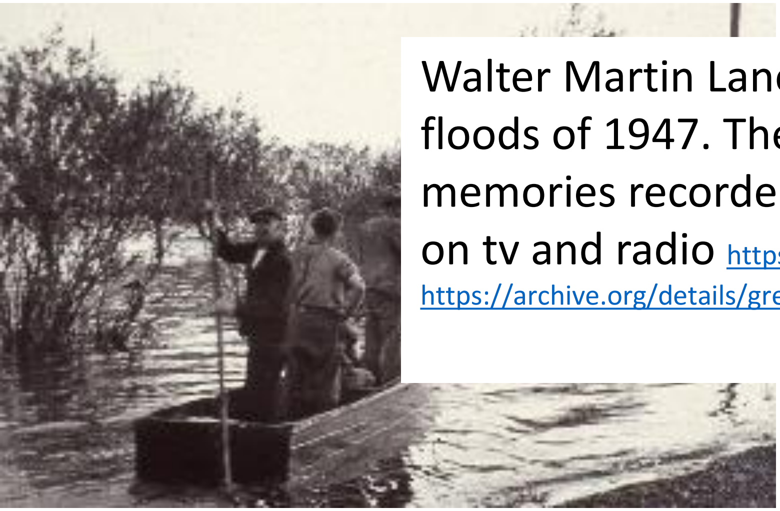


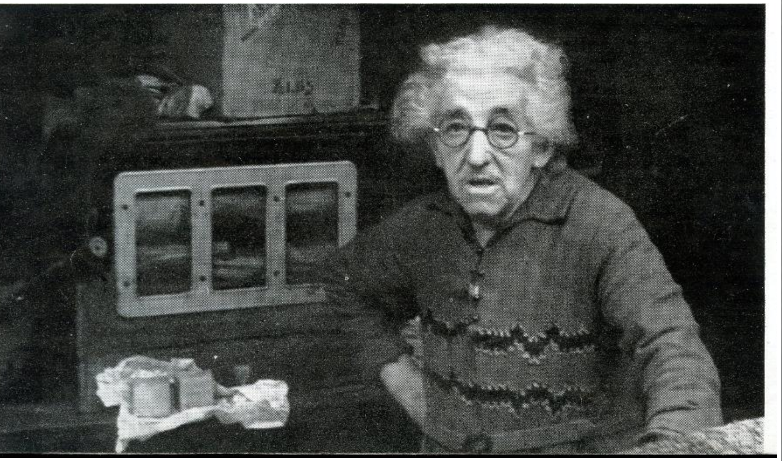






Walter Martin Lane gave the Collection his photos of the fen floods of 1947. These were shared with residents and their memories recorded. The photos and stories have been featured on tv and radio https://archive.org/details/mpc-32a-soundings-1947-flood.-1995 https://archive.org/details/great-flood-of-1947-lester-milbank-1997





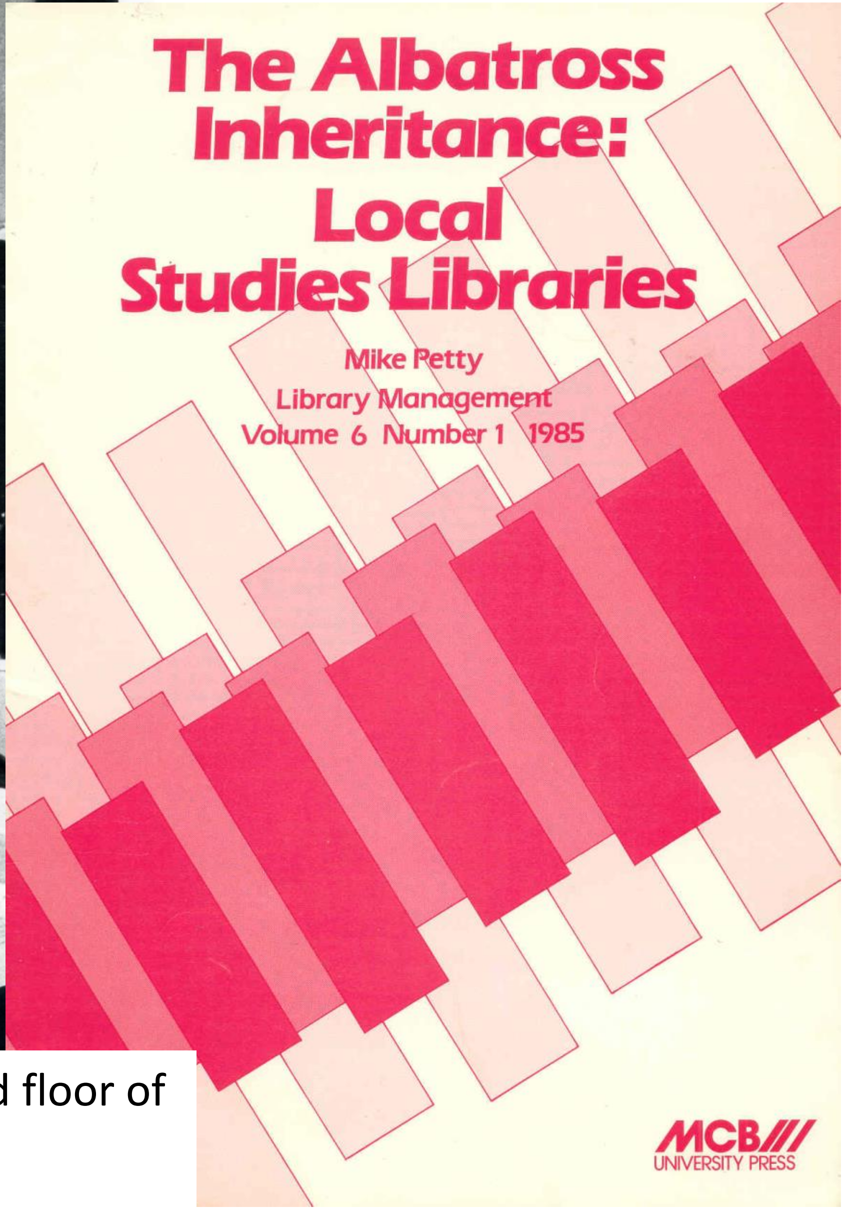






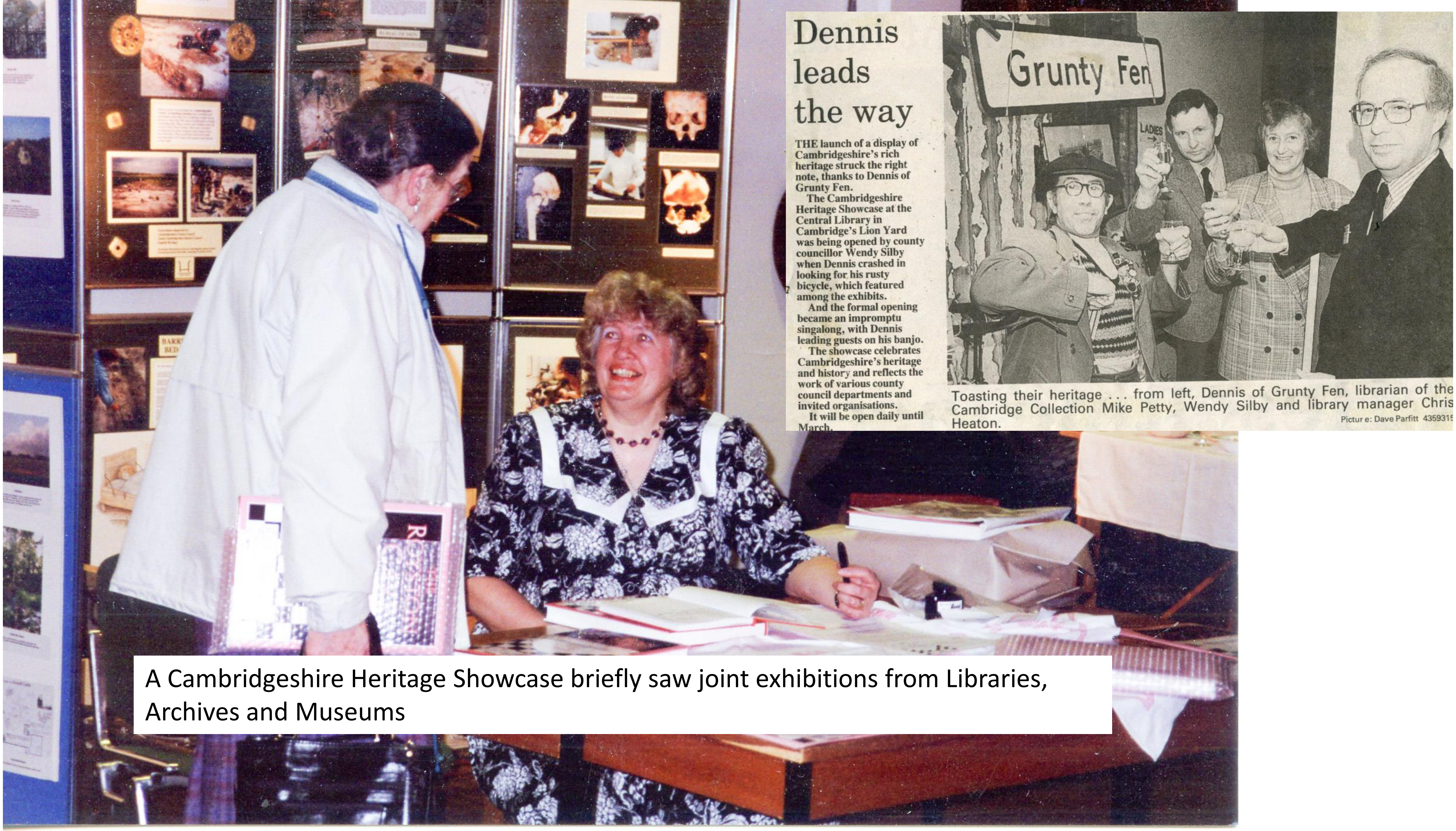






Local Government Reorganisation and a Cambridgeshire Collection suite on the third floor of a new Central Library in Lion Yard brought opportunities that were not realised

https://archive.org/details/PettyM.J.TheAlbatrossInheritance.1985



Dennis leads the way

THE launch of a display of Cambridgeshire's rich heritage struck the right note, thanks to Dennis of Grunty Fen.

The Cambridgeshire Heritage Showcase at the Central Library in Cambridge's Lion Yard was being opened by county councillor Wendy Silby when Dennis crashed in looking for his rusty bicycle, which featured among the exhibits.

And the formal opening became an impromptu singalong, with Dennis leading guests on his banjo.

The showcase celebrates Cambridgeshire's heritage and history and reflects the work of various county council departments and invited organisations.

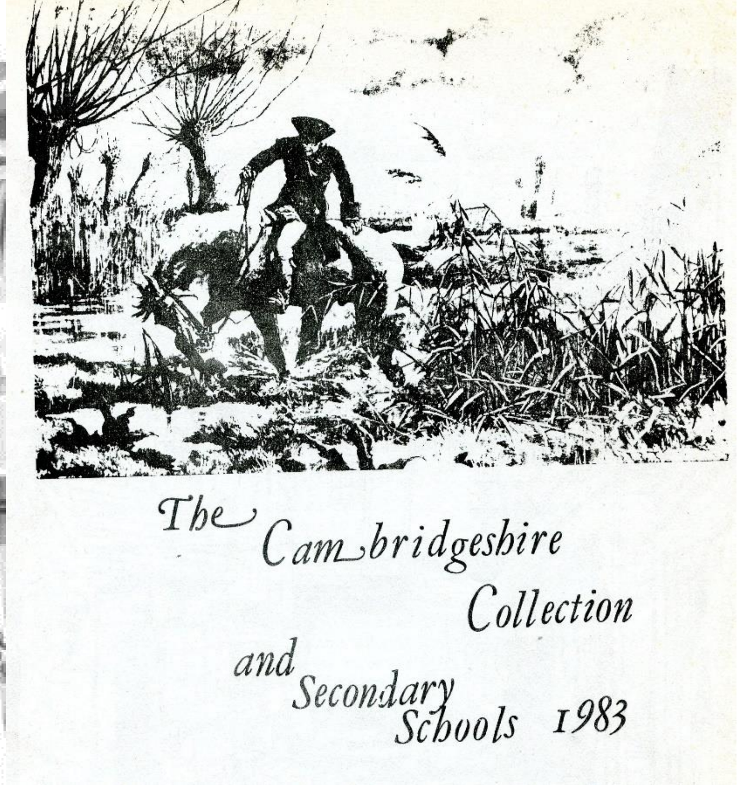
It will be open daily until March.

Toasting their heritage . . . from left, Dennis of Grunty Fen, librarian of the Cambridge Collection Mike Petty, Wendy Silby and library manager Chris Heaton.

Picture: Dave Parfitt 4359315

A Cambridgeshire Heritage Showcase briefly saw joint exhibitions from Libraries, Archives and Museums



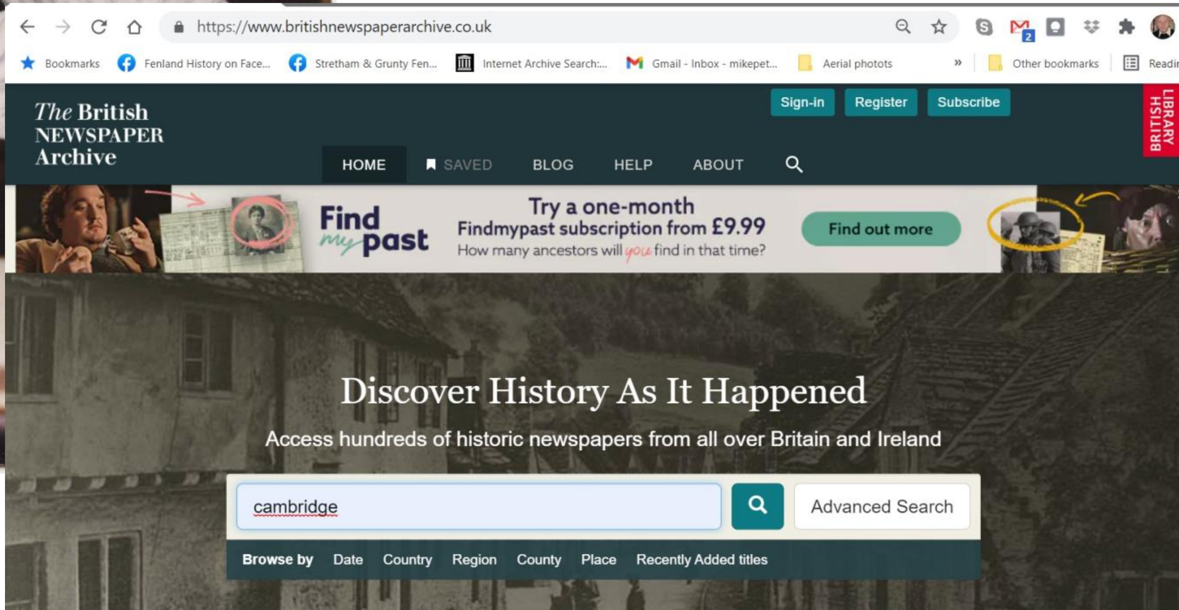




The Collection established a Teaching Area for classes and a History Teacher was seconded to evaluate its resources for secondary schools. The Open University pioneered digital learning



The Collection worked with the Newsplan Project to ensure Cambridgeshire papers were microfilmed. This has been supplemented by the British Newspaper Archive https://www.britishnewspaperarchive.co.uk/





By the mid 1990s the Collection was being used by some 1,000 researchers each month. They used various detailed catalogues and indexes, of which the most important related to information appearing in books

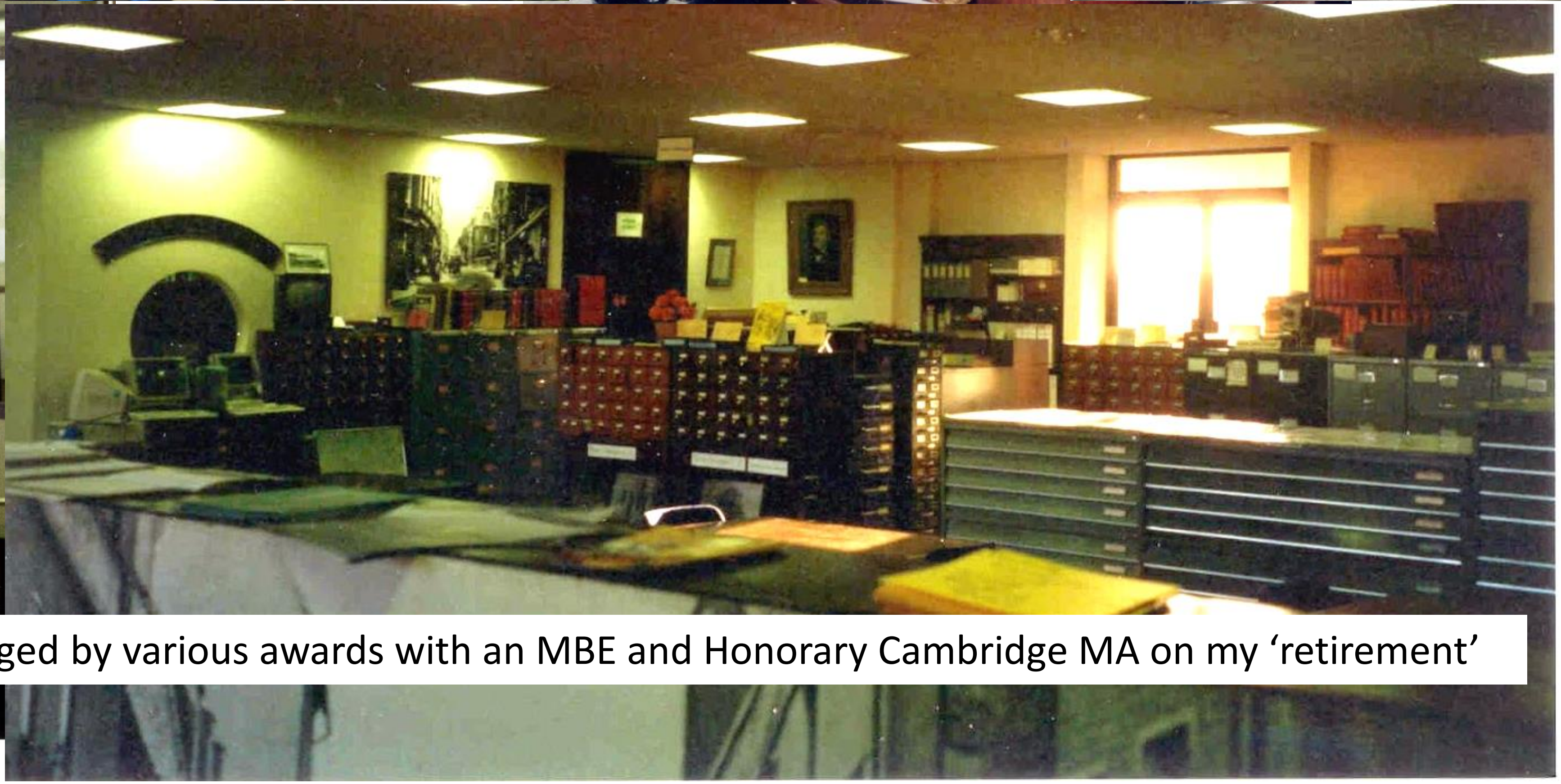






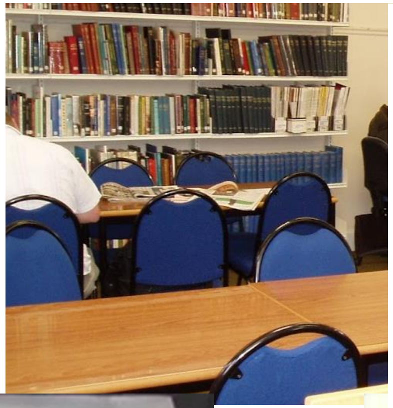






The Collection’s work was acknowledged by various awards with an MBE and Honorary Cambridge MA on my ‘retirement’

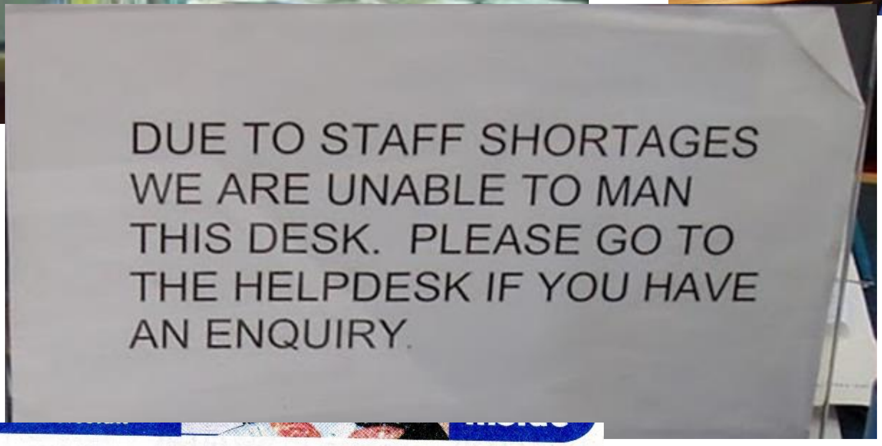




But by the turn of the century the Collection’s staff and facilities were drastically cut during a period of mismanagement that saw the entire Central Library closed for many months. However protests have ensured that it remains a part of the Cambridge Central Library











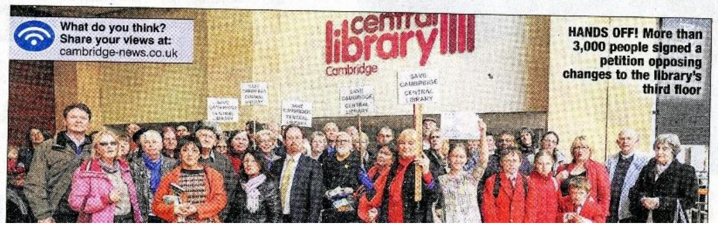
Central library protest forces council rethink

JON VALE

A DECISION to replace part of Cambridge Central Library's third floor with an enterprise centre has been put on hold.

Protesters were successful in getting the decision reviewed after an appeal to Cambridgeshire County Council on Tuesday.

The proposals would have leased some 60 per cent of the third floor to Kora – part of the Regus group – for an enterprise centre to help the out-



HANDS OFF! More than 3,000 people signed a petition opposing changes to the library's third floor

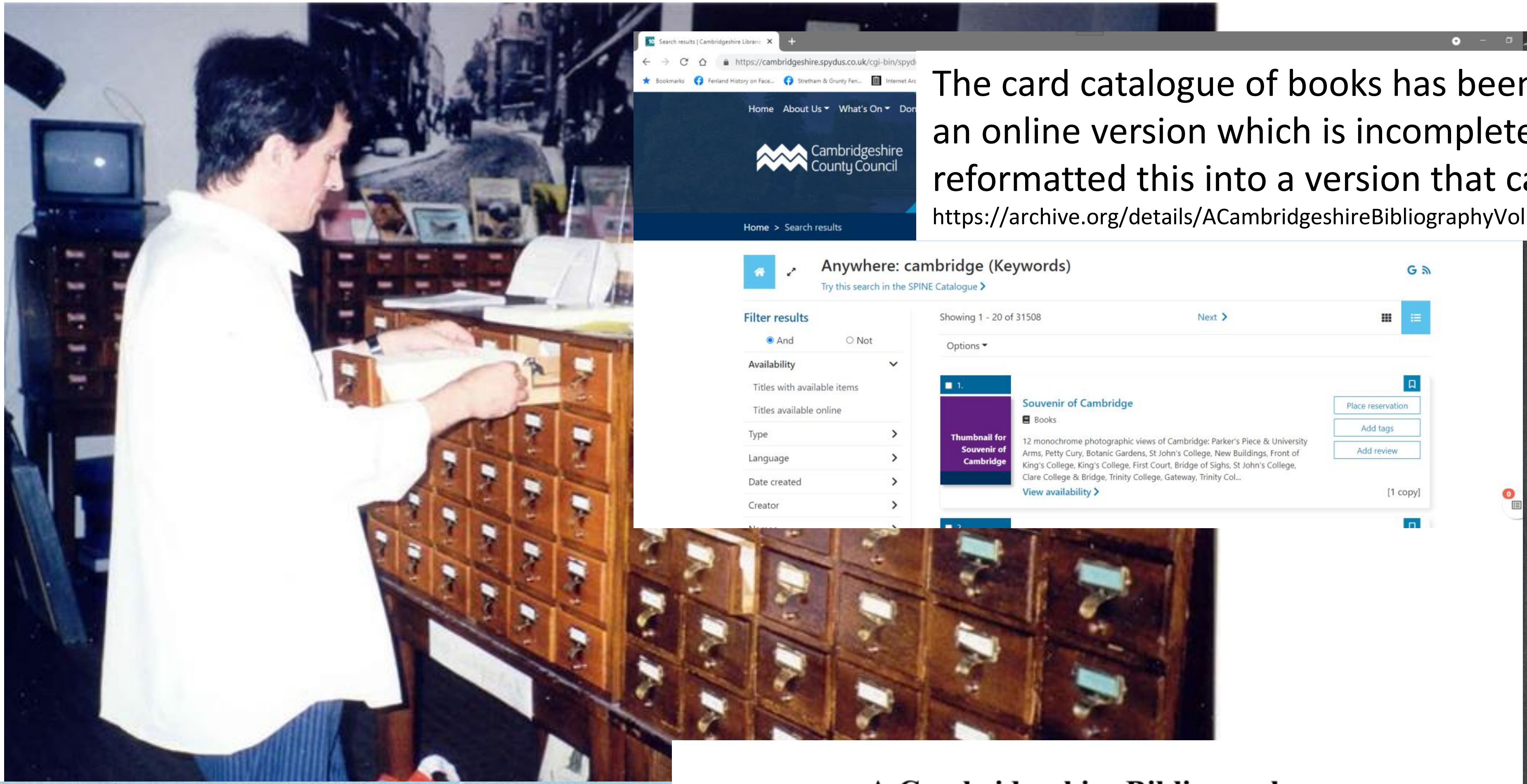
However, a motion from committee chairman Cllr Roger Hickford means that the decision was delayed until the same committee's meeting in June.

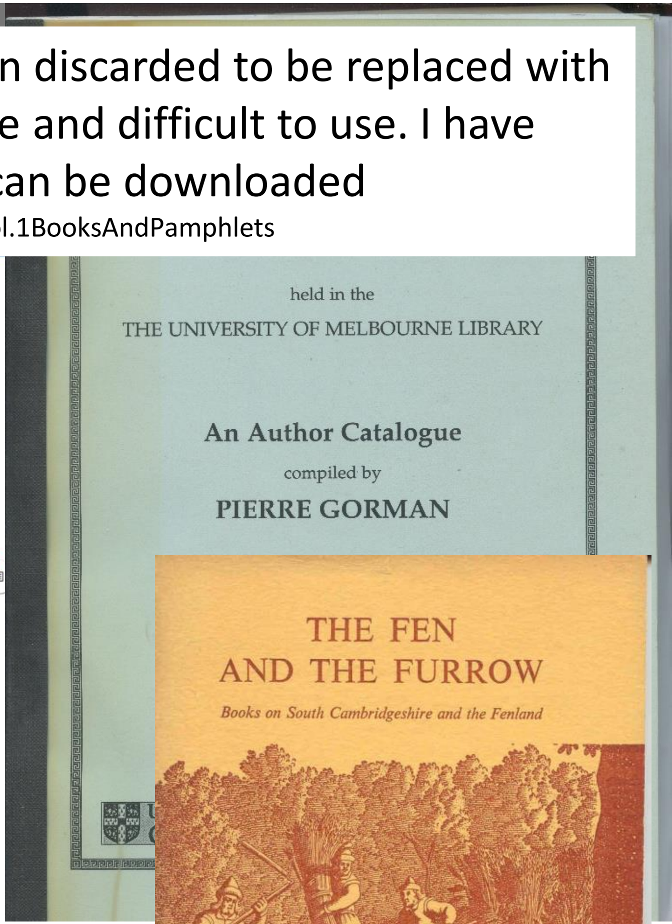
A consultation over the future of the library service is likely to be extended past its current end of April closing date.

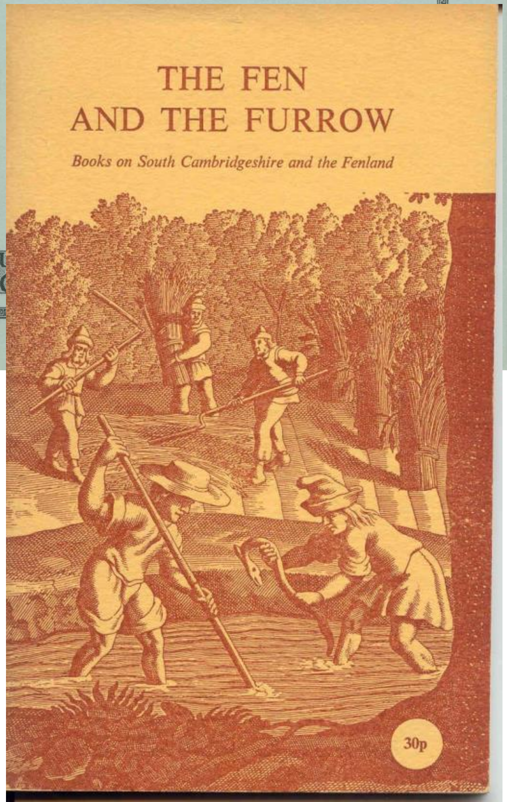
A petition signed by almost 3,500 people was presented to the general purposes committee on Tuesday opposing the plans, although the wording of the petition was criti-

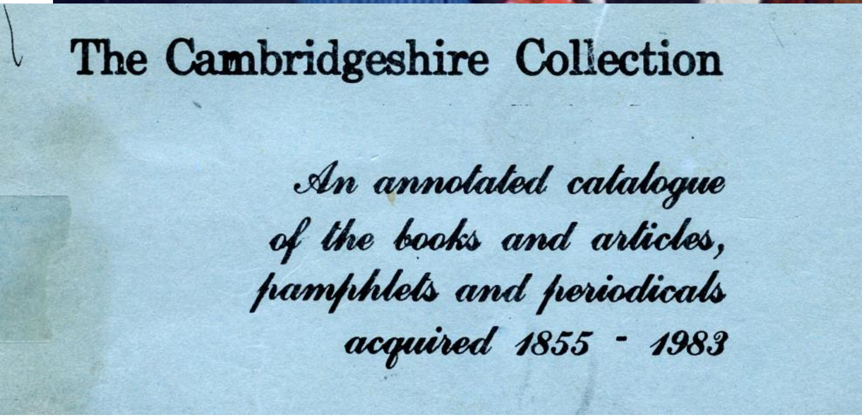


The card catalogue of books has been discarded to be replaced with an online version which is incomplete and difficult to use. I have reformatted this into a version that can be downloaded
https://archive.org/details/ACambridgeshireBibliographyVol.1BooksAndPamphlets









A Cambridgeshire Bibliography

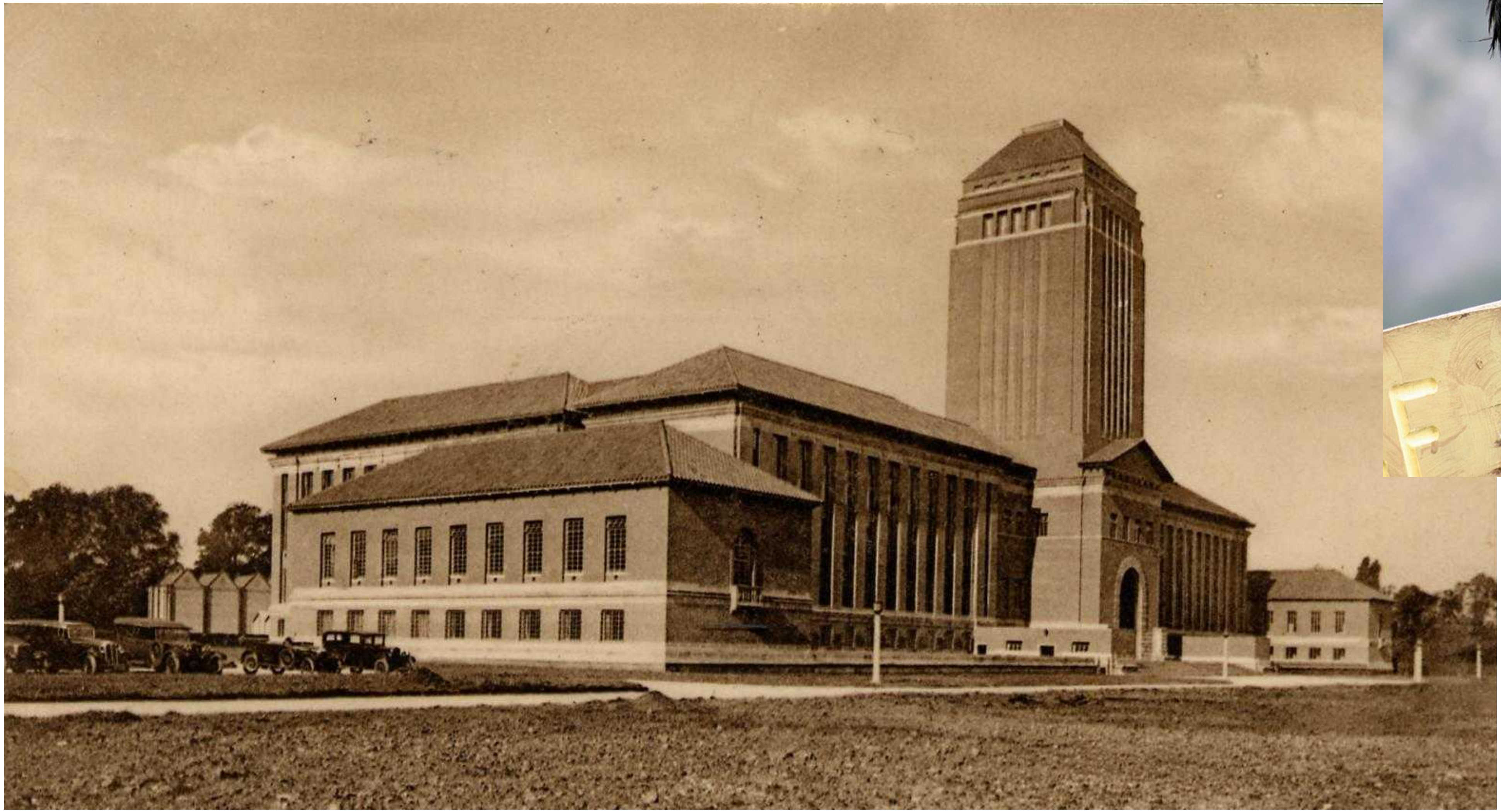
Volume 1

An annotated catalogue of the books and articles, pamphlets and periodicals about Cambridge, Cambridgeshire and the Fens accessioned by the Cambridgeshire Collection 1855-2016.

Mike Petty

Early English Books Online
English Parliamentary Papers
Eighteen-century Books Online *etc etc*

Cambridge University Library has been pioneering projects to digitise books, journal articles and reports





With a 'Raven' password I was able to discover hundreds of items not held in the Collection

which I have downloaded to my library together with material from other sites such *as Google Books* and *Internet Archive*

Help

rts_of_Special_... ×

5 / 449 114%

11606

Gt. Brit. Poor law commissioners.

REPORTS

OF

SPECIAL ASSISTANT

POOR LAW COMMISSIONERS

ON THE EMPLOYMENT

OF

WOMEN AND CHILDREN

IN AGRICULTURE.

ch

1805 Barrett Witches	1833 Bedford Level Accounts	1859 Monumental inscriptions
1806 Cooper Cambridge	1834 Harding Isopoda	1860 Gt Ouse Scheme
1807 Berridge Fragment	1835 Cooper Cambridge	1861 Porter Notebooks
1808 Platt What transport	1836 Kingston Fragments	1866 Election petitions names
1809 Frost From rioting	1837 Holywell Parish registers	1867 Delanoy Spooky stories
1810 Jones Guided bus	1838 Swavesey born & bred	1868 Madingley
1811 Whitely Pepys	1839 Frere Cot	
1812 O'Connor Stretham coprolites	1840 03 28 Roa	
1813 Guillebaud From bats	1840 Swavesey	
1813 Newspplan titles	1841 Swavesey	
1815 Impington Hall sale	1842 Thomas C	
1816 Terence Gray	1843 Six move	
1817 Woolf A room	1844 Over Chronicle	1875 Bennett Invasion
1818 Keynes Women's part	1845 Benwick Mill	1876 Freeman album
1819 Clark Route	1846 Swavesey old & new	1877 Kelly Norfolk 1922



ACTS of PARLIAMENT,

FOR

DRAINING and PRESERVING

OF SEVERAL

Fen Lands and Low Grounds,

IN THE PARISH OF

WHITTLESEY,

IN THE

AT A SESSION OF SEWARS HOLDEN AT THE CITTIE OF *ELY*, the xxij. and xxiij. dayes of *September*, *Ann. Dom.* 1619. before the Reuerend Father in God NICHOLAS, Lord Bishop of *Ely*, Sr. MILES SANDYS, Knight and Barronet, Sr. EDWARD RADCLIFFE, Sr. IOHN CVTS, Sr. SYMEON STEWARD, Sr. RICHARD COXE, Sr. WILLIAM WENDIE, Knights: IOHN GOSTLIN Doctor of Physicke, Vicechancellor of the Vniuersitie of *Cambridge*, IOHN CROPLEY, and HENRIE SMITH, Doctors of Diuinitie, IOHN POPE Doctor of Lawe, *Henrie Bing* Esquier, Mr. *Ierome Beale*, Batchelor in Diuinitie, *Daniel Wigmore* Archdeacon of *Ely*, *Robert Steward*, *Isaac Barrowe*, *Daniell Goodricke*, *Peter Franckland*, Esquiers; *Robert Clench*, *Iohn Pepis*, *Iohn Orwell*, *Simon Watson*, and *Henry Vpcher*, Gentlemen, Commissioners of *Sewars* amongst others assigned: It is ordered as followeth: *viz.*

WHEREAS The Kings most excellent Maiestie, by his gracious Letters, dated at *Windsore* the iiij. day of this instant moneth of *September*, directed vnto the Commissioners of Sewars in the Countie of *Cambridge*, Isle of *Ely*, *Suffolke*, *Norfolke*, *Lincolne*, *Northampton*, *Huntingdon*, &c. therein signifying, that Sr. WILLIAM AYLOFFE, Knight and Barronet, Sr. ANTHONIE THOMAS Knight, with other their friends, at their owne charge haue vndertaken the great and worthy worke, to draine the grounds surrounded with fresh or salt waters, in the seuerall Counties of *Cambridge*, the Isle of *Ely*, *Norfolke*, *Suffolke*, *Lincolne*, *Northampton*, *Huntingdon*, &c. whereby his Maiestie conceiueth, that a great and inestimable profit will arise to the Kingdome, and that the said worke will disburthen the said Counties, and the Inhabitants thereof, from the taxes and charges now continually imposed vpon them, and will reconcile, and vtterly take away all differences, and discontents heretofore arising about the leuying of such taxes: Also signifying, that the said Vndertakers haue alreadie concluded in point with his Maiestie, concerning the recompence for the draining his Maiesties lands, and the lands of the Prince his Highnes; And hath by his Maiesties said Letters, recommended the said Vndertakers, and their designes to the especiall care of all the Lords, and other Commissioners of *Sewars*, for all and euery the said Counties, requiring them to be aiding and assisting to them in the Contracts to be made with the Subiects according to Lawe; And that all persons should be respectiue, and conformable to that his Maiesties Royall pleasure.

AND therewithall, the right Honourable Lords, and others of his Maiesties most Honourable Priuie Counsell, for further direction and instruction, haue also directed their Honourable Letters, bearing date at *Windsore* aforesaid, the v. day of the said moneth of *September*, Wherein their Lordships for the better clearing of the said businesse, haue mentioned one cheife purpose of the said Vndertakers, That they entend to beginne their workes at the Sea, and to open the out-falls of *Neane* and *Welland*, and make them nauigable to the Townes of *Spalding* and *Wisbich*, which (their Lordships conceiued) will take away all feare of turning the waters vpon any the neighbour-Countries, and drawe the same into their true and naturall channells, without any further trouble or inconuenience.

For the readier, and more speedie execution whereof, their Lordships by their said Letters did likewise require the said Commissioners of *Sewars*, to obserue well his Maiesties said gracious, and Princely direction.

OBSERVATIONS

ON

AN ADDRESS

TO THE

PUBLIC,

DATED APRIL, 20, 1775,

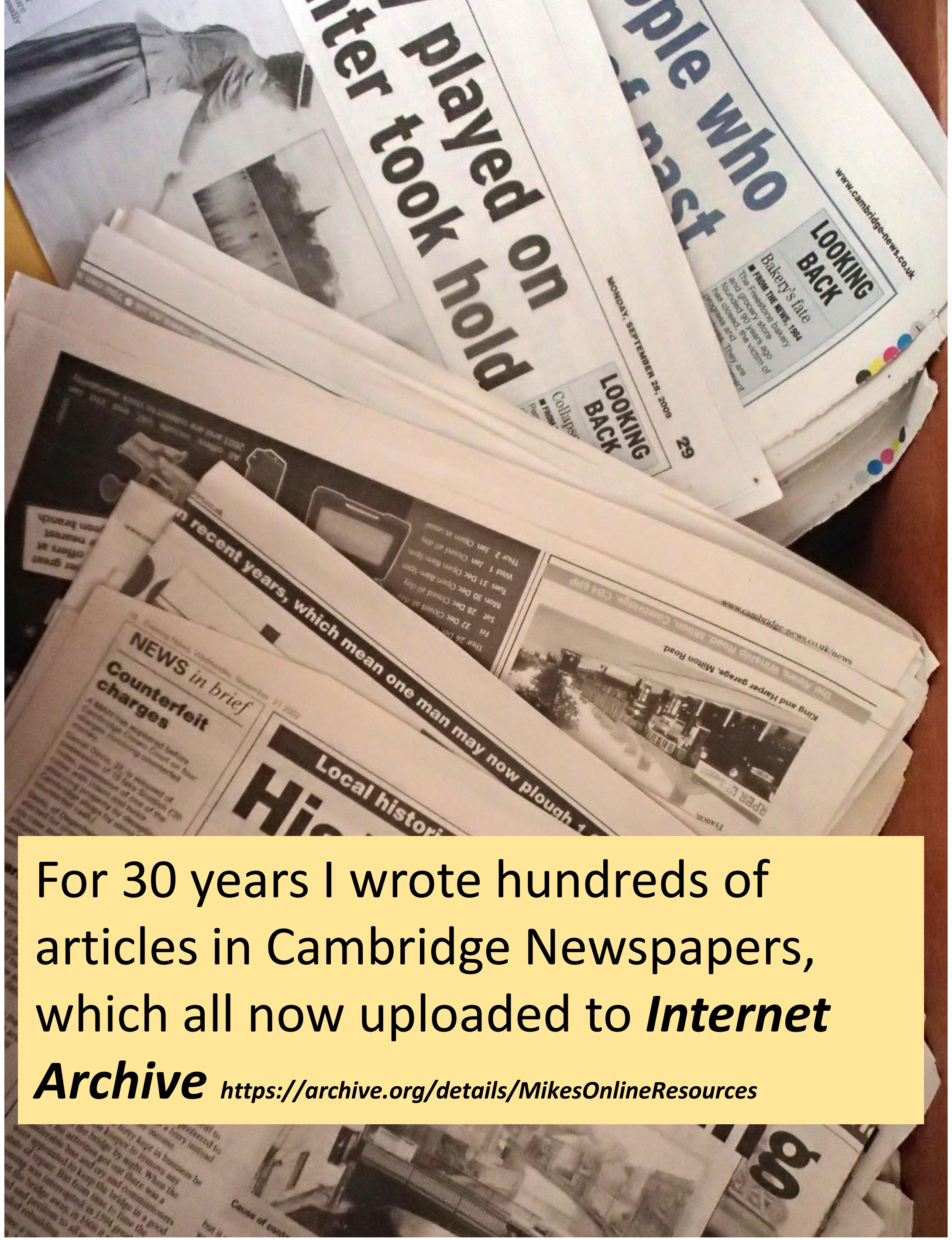
SUPERSCRIBED

BEDFORD LEVEL,

AND SIGN'D

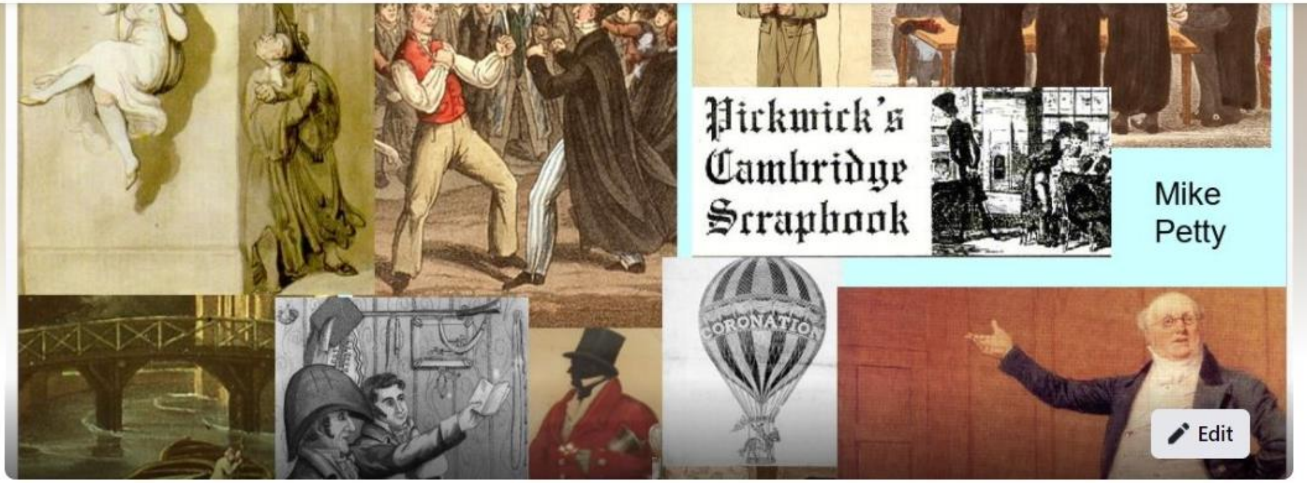
CHARLES NALSON COLE, *Register*;

Repeatedly inserted in the Cambridge Paper;



For 30 years I wrote hundreds of articles in Cambridge Newspapers, which all now uploaded to ***Internet Archive*** ***https://archive.org/details/MikesOnlineResources***

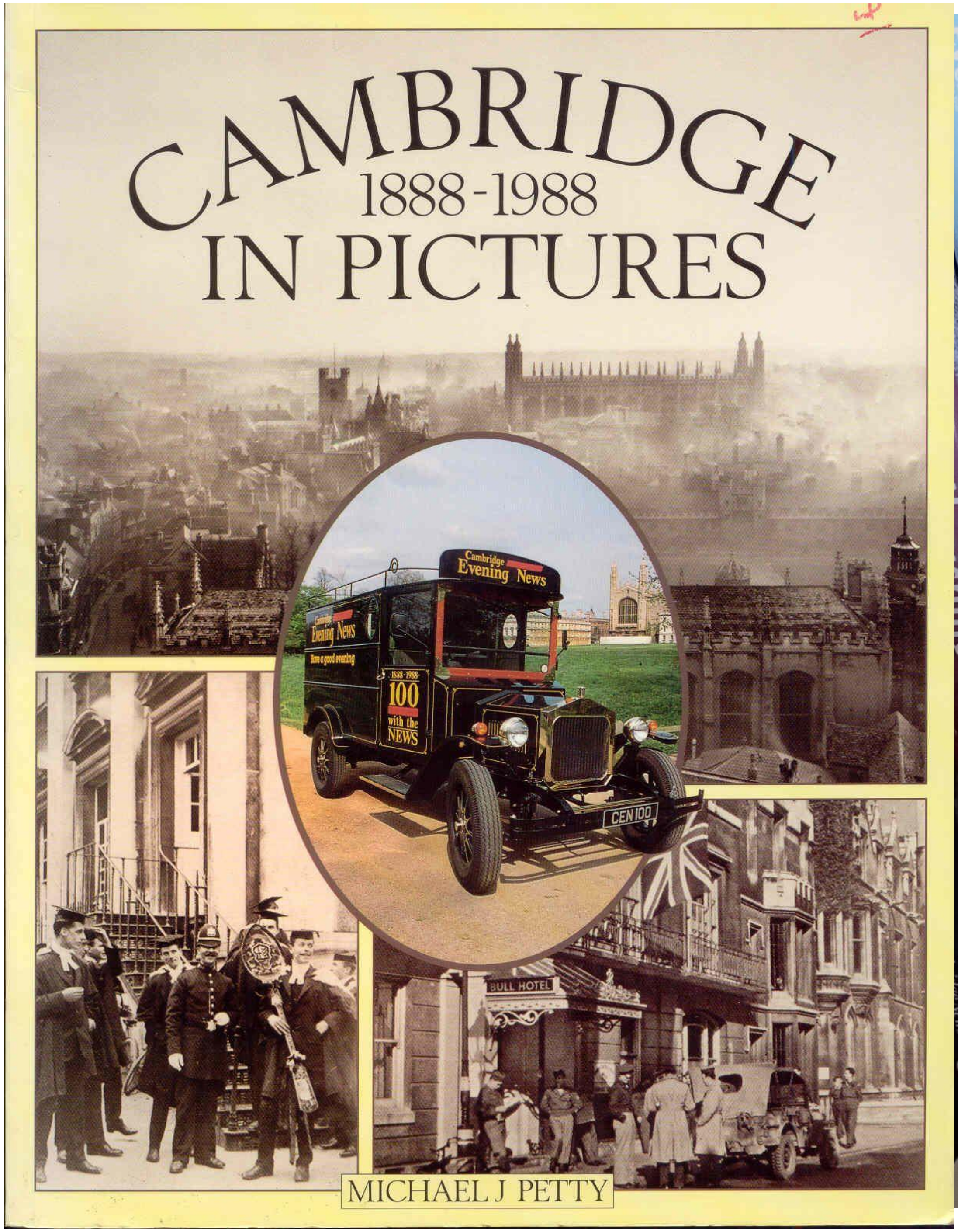


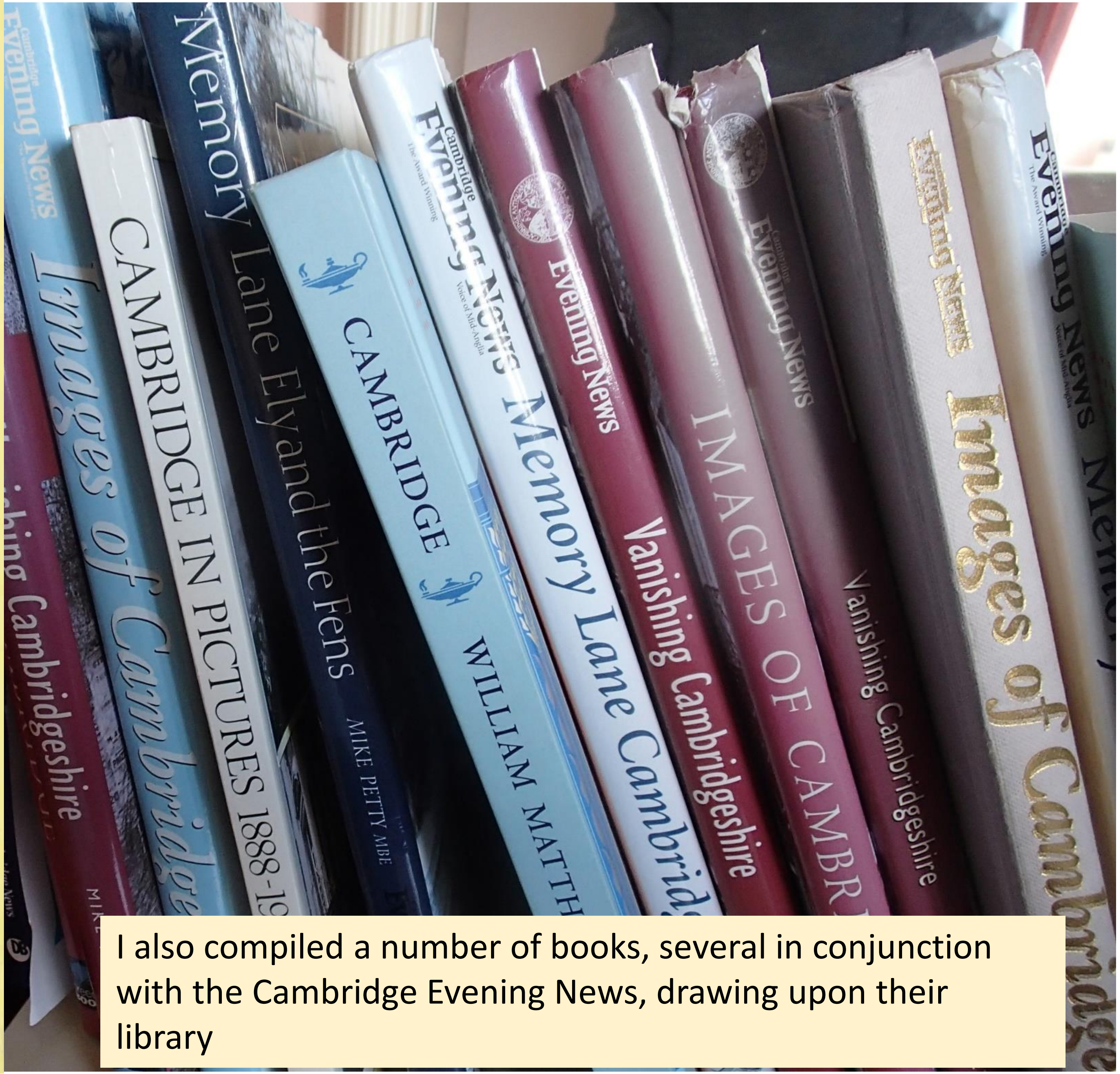


Pickwick's Cambridge Scrapbook 1838

Public group · 8 members

Joined | + Invite





I also compiled a number of books, several in conjunction with the Cambridge Evening News, drawing upon their library



From the mid 1960's the Cambridge News had maintained their own library to record every story that had been published in their newspaper

That library was closed down. But I had permission to use

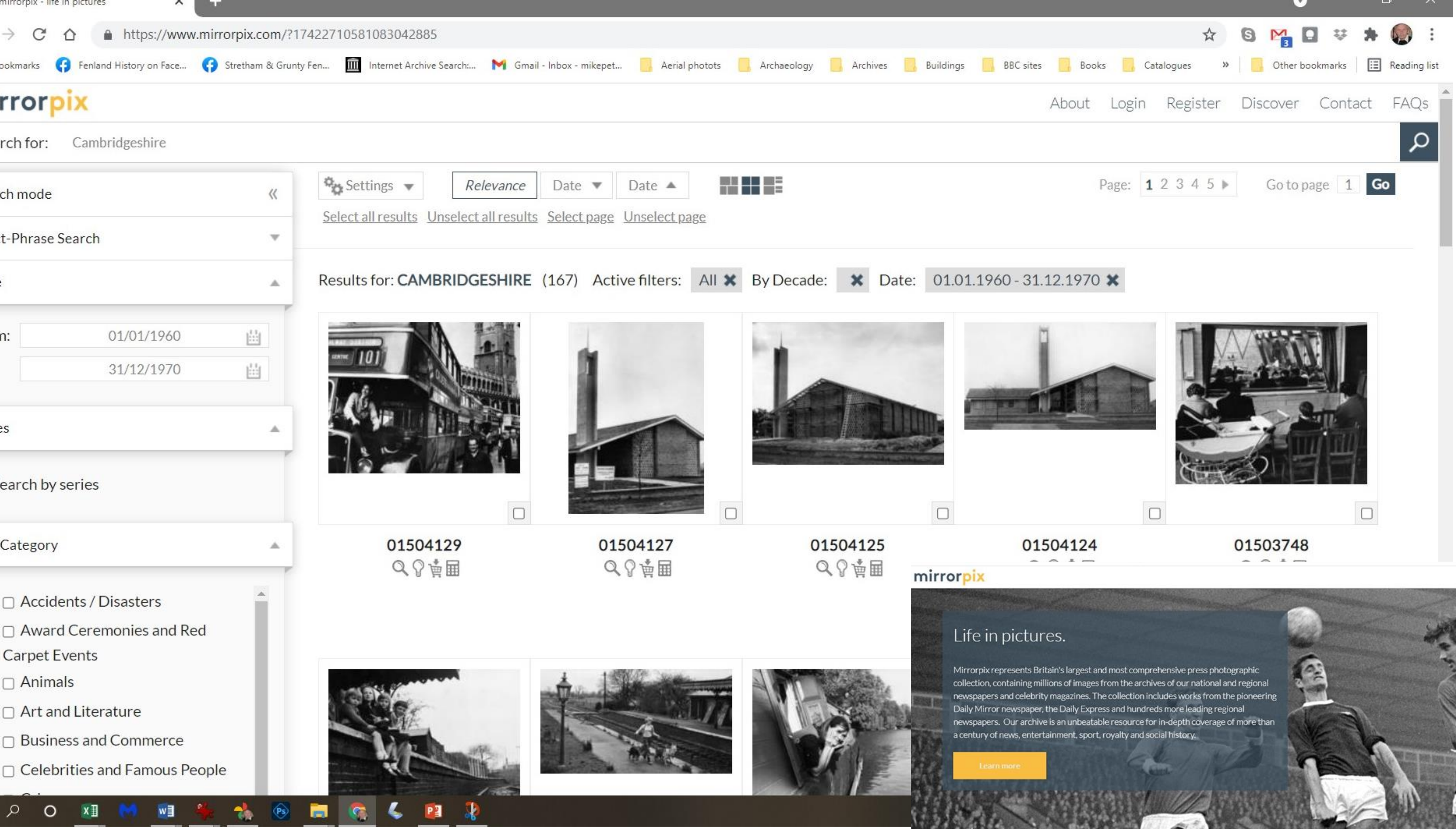


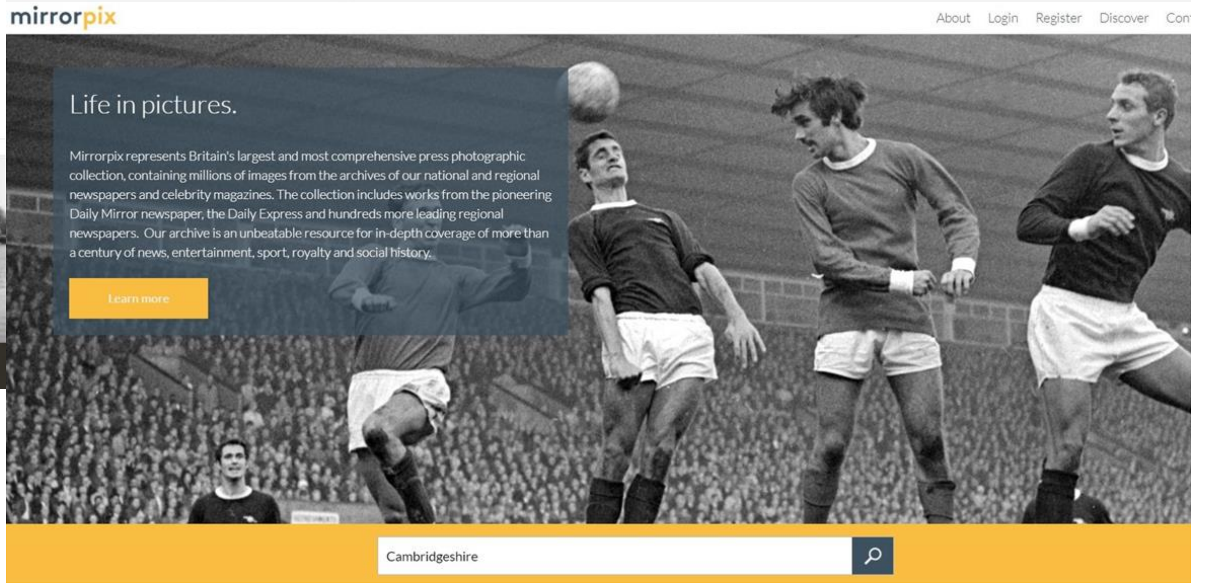
There were hundreds of folders of photographs and thousands of negatives. I took digital copies of many of these then used an image processing program to convert them to positives which I added to my files.



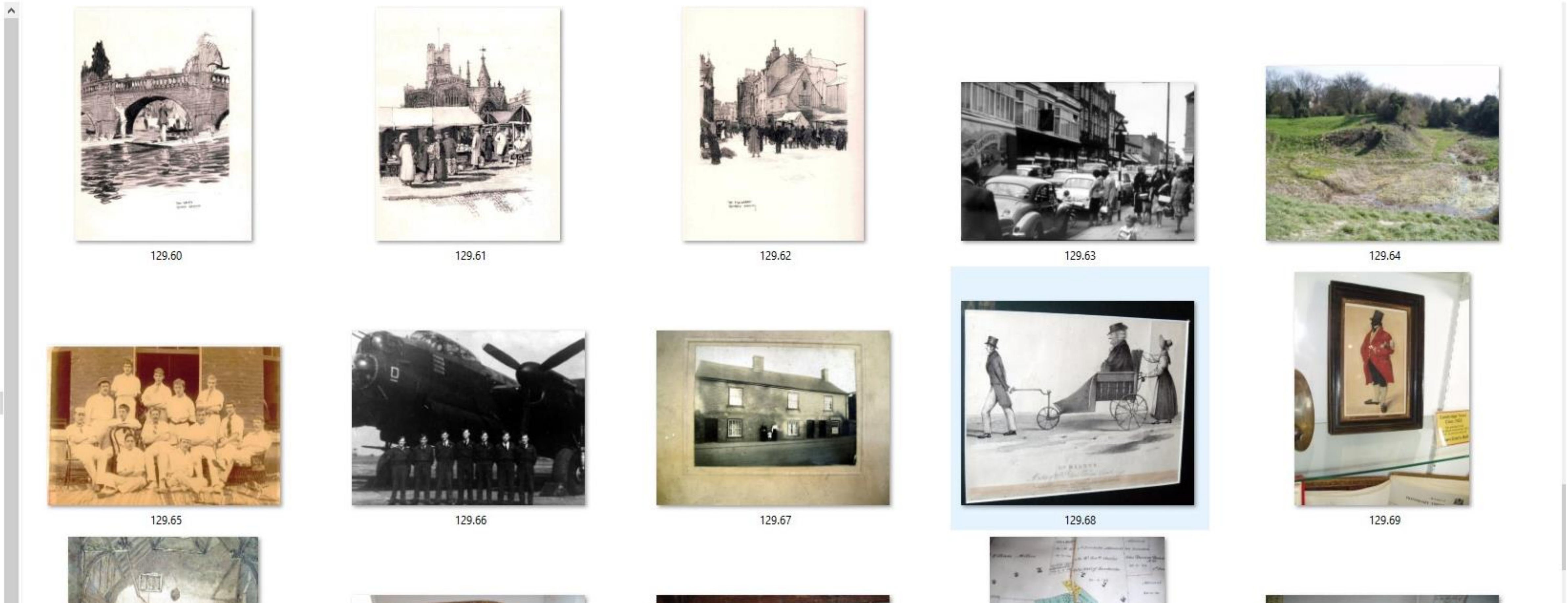


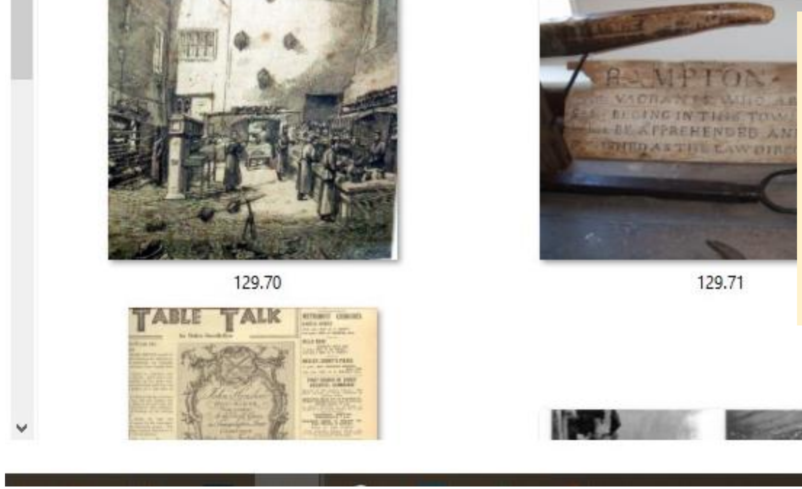
I identified and catalogued thousands of Cambridge News negatives

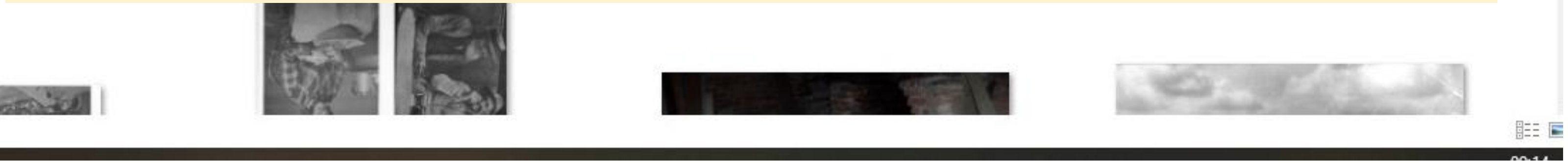




The Cambridge News negatives now form part of the Mirrorpix archive. They have plans to properly scan and share them and can supply quality prints.







They are some of over 25,000 images I have catalogued and copied to Google Photos

https://archive.org/details/CambridgeshireIllustrationsPart1Index

https://archive.org/details/cambridgehire-illustrations-1574-to-2000-in-mike-pettys-collection-nov-2020

https://photos.app.goo.gl/JpSUwUy5cFdQJx1q9

https://photos.app.goo.gl/CVkH8YnnZnJFHvpJ6



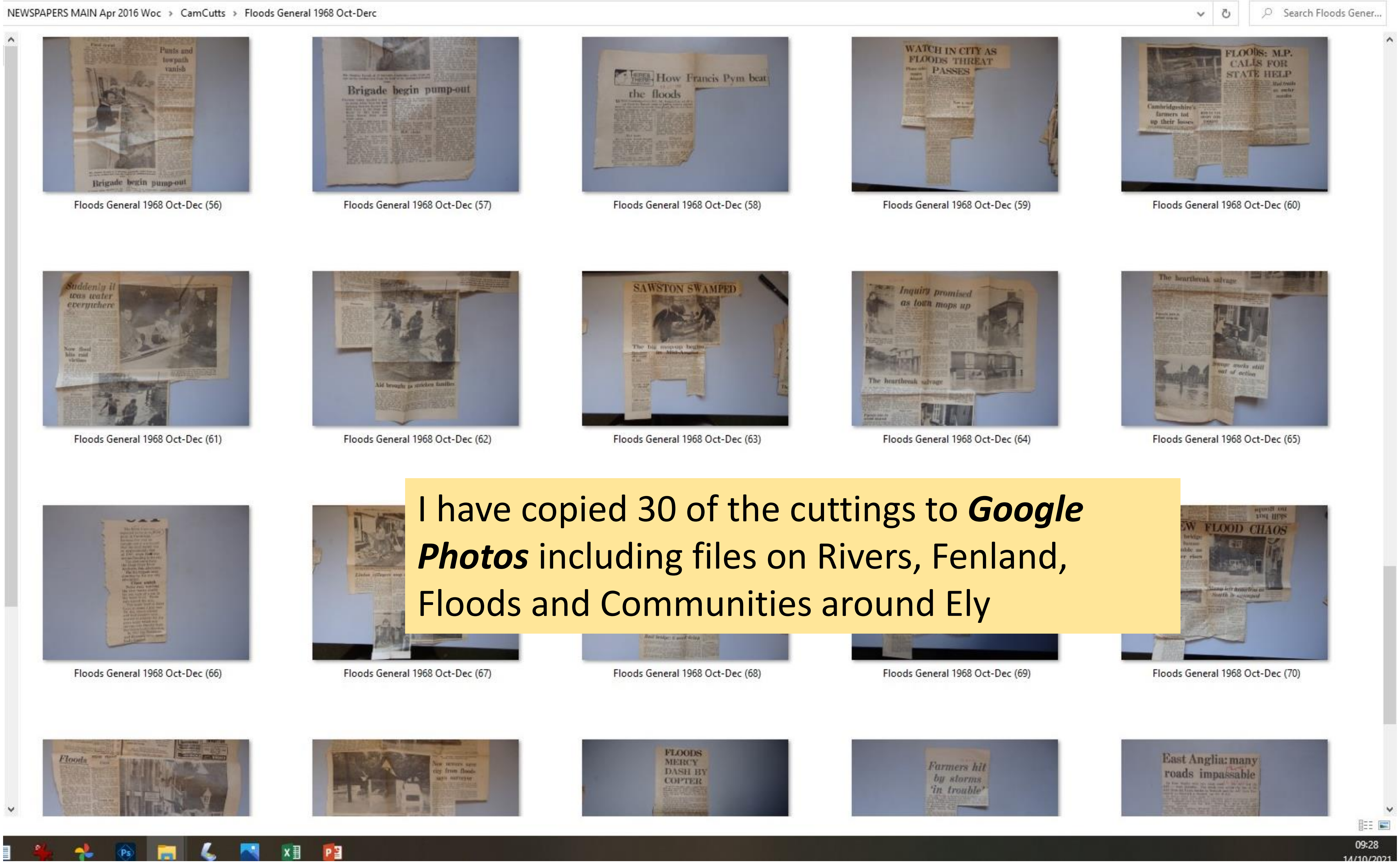
The Cambridge News Librarians maintained thousands of cuttings files from the 1960s to the end of the century.







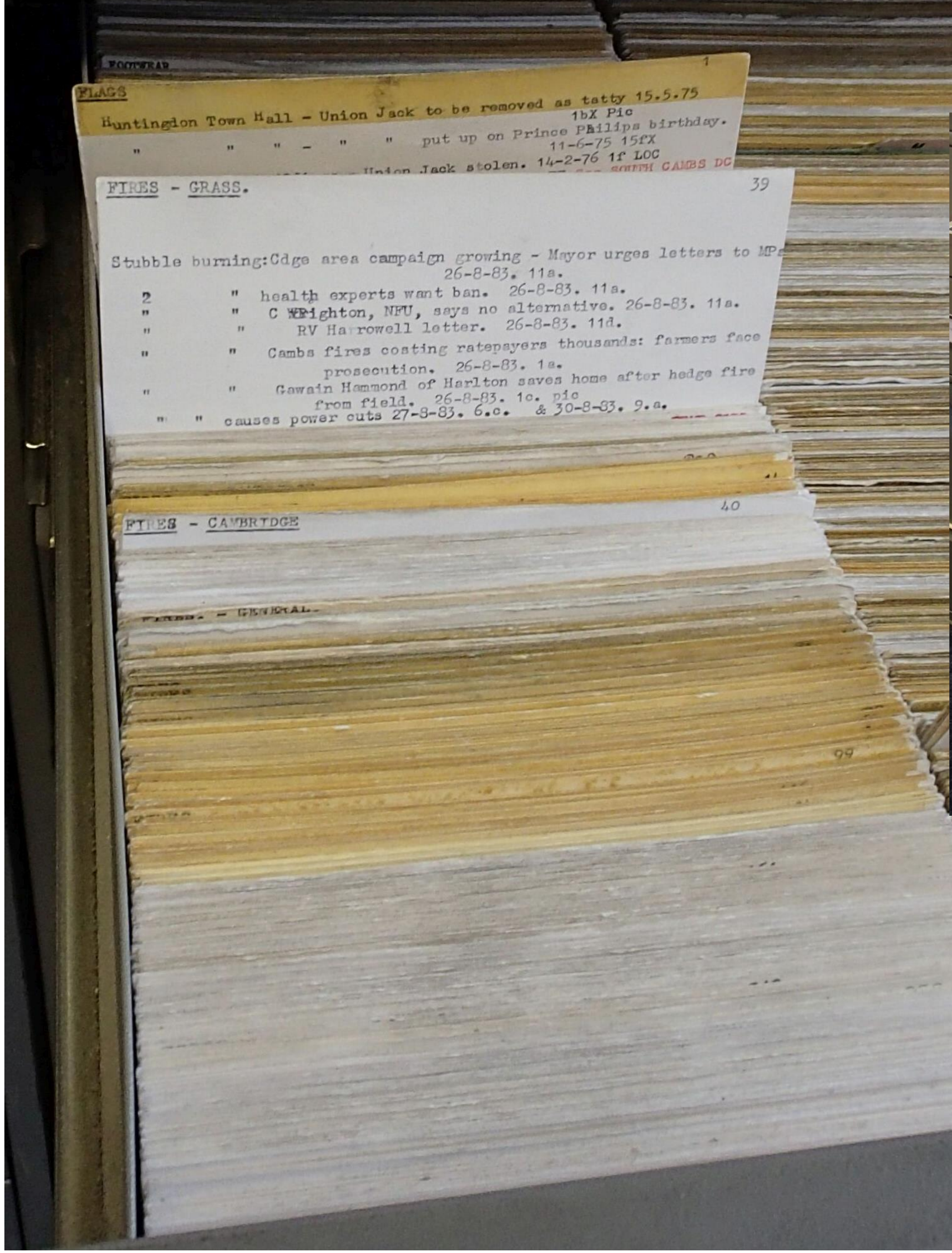
They covered all aspects of Cambridge and its county.
Many duplicated the files maintained by the Cambridgeshire Collection.
These were not needed and were scheduled to be dumped.
Instead they were given to me.
I have passed them to the Cambridge Independent who have promised to make them accessible to researchers



I have copied 30 of the cuttings to ***Google Photos*** including files on Rivers, Fenland, Floods and Communities around Ely

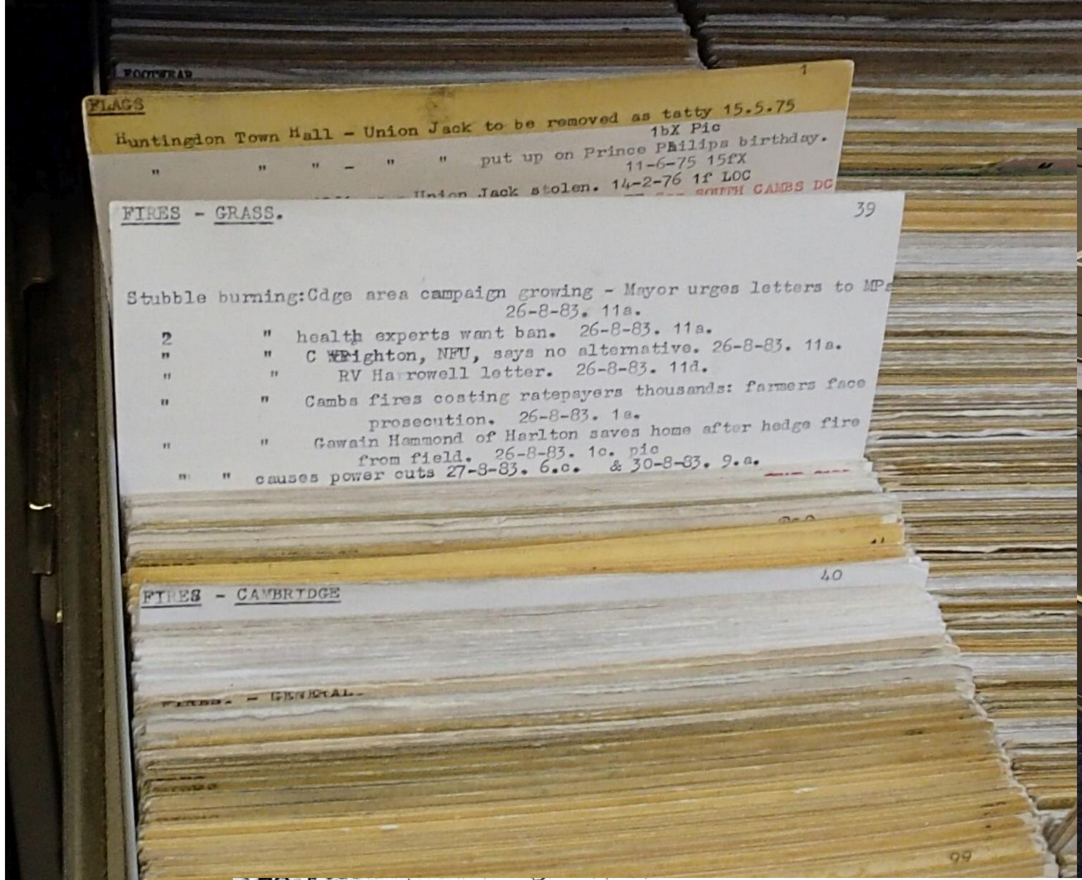


The Cambridge News Librarians also built-up detailed card indexes recording everything published in their paper. These were housed in filing cabinets



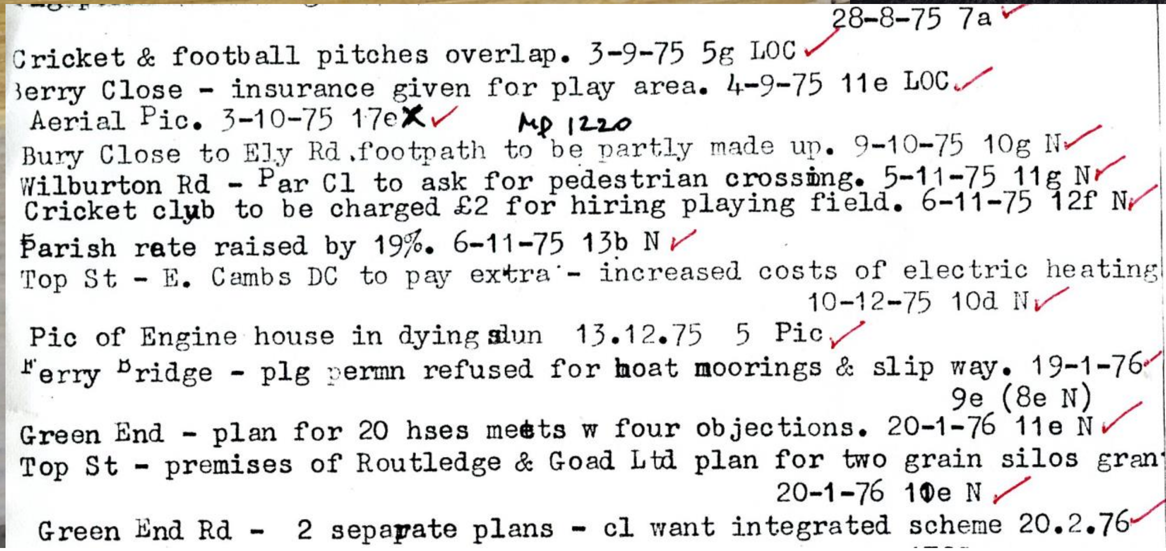


One morning I opened the cabinets to find that all the cards had disappeared

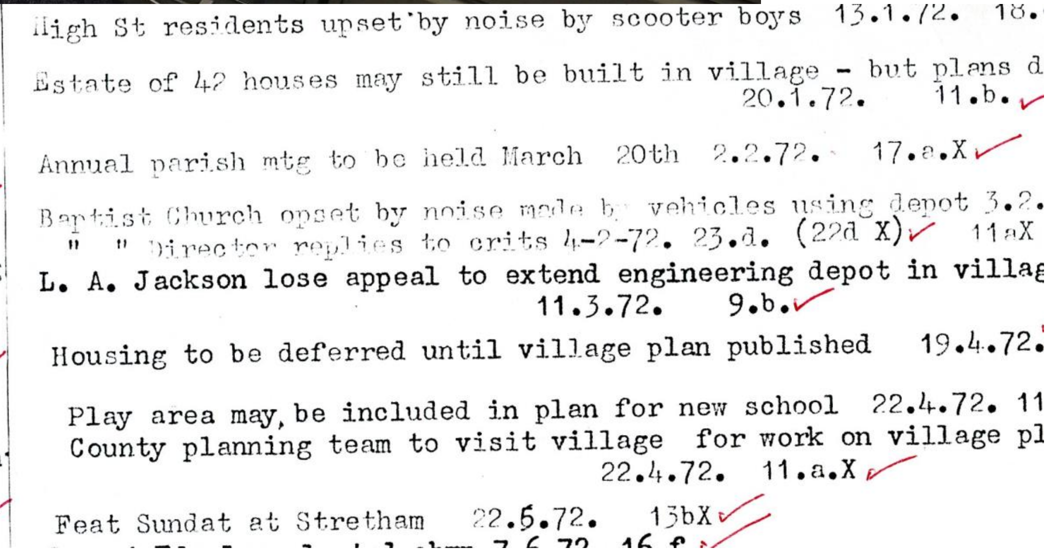




Fortunately I had copied a few of the indexes including Stretham and the villages around Ely



28-8-75 7a
Cricket & football pitches overlap. 3-9-75 5g LOC
Berry Close - insurance given for play area. 4-9-75 11e LOC.
Aerial Pic. 3-10-75 17eX MP 1220
Bury Close to Ely Rd footpath to be partly made up. 9-10-75 10g N
Wilburton Rd - Par Cl to ask for pedestrian crossing. 5-11-75 11g N
Cricket club to be charged £2 for hiring playing field. 6-11-75 12f N
Parish rate raised by 19%. 6-11-75 13b N
Top St - E. Cambs DC to pay extra - increased costs of electric heating
10-12-75 10d N
Pic of Engine house in dying sun 13.12.75 5 Pic
Ferry Bridge - plg permn refused for boat moorings & slip way. 19-1-76
9e (8e N)
Green End - plan for 20 hses meets w four objections. 20-1-76 11e N
Top St - premises of Routledge & Goad Ltd plan for two grain silos gran
20-1-76 10e N
Green End Rd - 2 separate plans - cl want integrated scheme 20.2.76



High St residents upset by noise by scooter boys 13.1.72. 18.
Estate of 42 houses may still be built in village - but plans d
20.1.72. 11.b.
Annual parish mtg to be held March 20th 2.2.72. 17.a.X
Baptist Church upset by noise made by vehicles using depot 3.2.
" " Director replies to crits 4-2-72. 23.d. (22d X) 11aX
L. A. Jackson lose appeal to extend engineering depot in villag
11.3.72. 9.b.
Housing to be deferred until village plan published 19.4.72.
Play area may be included in plan for new school 22.4.72. 11
County planning team to visit village for work on village pl
22.4.72. 11.a.X
Feat Sundat at Stretham 22.5.72. 13bX





LOOKING BACK

By MIKE PETTY

Tourists spending £165m in city

» FROM THE NEWS 1989

Tourists contributed £165 million to Cambridge's economy last year but just £157,000 was spent on welcoming them.

The council cash went on running the tourism office in Wheeler Street, which has 12 full-time staff and another dozen workers in the summer.

The colleges are a major attraction but university life would be seriously disrupted if they were allowed to roam uncontrolled. Most colleges close during exams but are anxious not to close their gates unnecessarily.

Remembering Wembley days

» FROM THE NEWS 1964

Memories will flood back to Girton man, Vic Watson, when his old team West Ham play in a Wembley Cup Final.

The last time they were there was in 1923 and Vic, then 25, was leading the attack as centre-forward. They lost 2-0 to Bolton in a game that became known as the 'White Horse Final'. Vic was with the club for 16 years and won seven England caps. After retirement he became club coach at Cambridge Town for nearly 20 years until they turned professional.

'Press must be true and faithful'

» FROM THE NEWS 1939

If war came some kind of press censorship would be

Local landmarks were far from run of the mill

Memories

By MIKE PETTY

LAST weekend, windmill enthusiasts celebrated the remaining examples of the structures which have been so important a feature of the landscape for centuries.

Inevitably many have now gone: "Windmills are disappearing so fast that in many parts of the country they are a forgotten race. Some day antiquarians will be examining and digging in mounds, having quite forgotten that they were the mounds of old windmills made to raise them a little above the surrounding land," Henry Hughes told members of the Cambridge Antiquarian Society in November 1928

Together with JH Bullock and Rex Wailes he set about making a record of the windmills existing throughout Cambridgeshire and the Isle of Ely. It was not an encouraging task for such enthusiasts. They found the oldest mill at Bourn had been out of commission for six years, its sails having been smashed in a gale in 1925, finishing its working life. But fears it would be lost were dispelled when it was acquired by the Cambridge Preservation Society who have continued to care for it.

In Cambridge the windmill that had given Mill Road its name had long gone and the mill at Long Road Trumpington had also disappeared. Miss Moore, the daughter of the last miller, told them it had been built in 1812 and stopped working in the spring of 1887. Photographer RL Lord snapped it in its prime. But French's Mill off Victoria Road was still standing (without

it was replaced in 1935 by a post mill from Ellington which Ambrose Harding the Squire of Madingley had moved plank by plank to its present site. Such restoration was expensive and needed specialist skills such as that of the Soham firm of Hunts millwrights whose work was photographed by the antiquarians.

In 1932 Philippa Burrell bought a cottage, granary and 20 acres of land together with the windmill at West Wratting for £600. High and isolated, she found it a little paradise – and promptly left to study in Paris! She returned in 1934 when she wrote plays and learned about planting and pruning. All the while the windmill was watching her with its broken sails, cap all out, windows rotten and rain going in. It was an

see the mill, sitting contentedly on rustic tables in the orchard. After two seasons however she closed the business as the mill was restored. It was not the end of the story; she wrote a play, *The Wind and the Mill*, which was performed by the Festival Theatre Company in the fields around the windmill in June 1935.

As well as corn mills, drainage mills were once a very familiar sight in the fens, and the Cambridge Antiquarians took a picture of a group of small mills near Isleham in 1914. There was a large mill at Soham mere, belonging to the Cambridgeshire County Council with the old type of tail beam and old types of sail. "Long may they be preserved by the bodies that own them," Hughes exhorted.

Sadly it was not to be. By 1947 the

SAILING AWAY: Above left, Madingley windmill painted by William Matthison c1907. Top: French's Mill, Victoria Road with sails, 1912. Above: Mill in Long Road Trumpington, photographed by R.H. Lord c1880.

later another drainage mill, much younger, much less impressive and in a much worse state, was re-built and erected just next door at Wicken Fen, where it is lauded as the last of the fenland wind drainage mills.

The photographs taken by the

For over 20 years I compiled a daily *Looking Back* column in the Cambridge News recording of of the interesting stories published 25, 50, 75 and 100 years before

The Cambridgeshire Scrapbook 1897-1990 lists the stories in one chronological sequence and includes many items relating to Cambridge that are not featured in the Chronicle.

A Cambridgeshire Scrapbook 1897-1990

Facts, Features and (occasional) Fallacies reported in Cambridge Newspapers

Summaries of Stories and Copies of Articles



compiled by Mike Petty.
Revised Jan 2021.

https://archive.org/details/a-cambridgeshire-scrapbook-1897-1990-by-mike-petty.-july-2020

1916 07 12
Big Push Casualties. There was a long list of casualties or local men as result of the Big Push, which is now progressing so satisfactorily. Large numbers of wounded have arrived at the First Eastern Hospital—as many as 460 reached Cambridge in two days— and a number of medical officers have left the hospital for service at a daughter hospital in Egypt 16 07 12 CIP

1916 07 19
100th ambulance train arrives – 16 07 19a

Cambridgeshire men who have fought and fell: photos of: Swift, Ingle, Hatterseley, Pryor, Bendall, Willis, Marsh, Dockerill, Rose, Johnson, Newman, Pearman, Richmond, Huyler, Renshaw, Goody, Stearn, Ellis, Chapman, Robinson, Barber, White, Benstead, Richmond, Ellis, Cousins, Lack, Smart, Monk, Foreman, King, Gifford – 16 07 19c [note: there are a series of photographs of casualties; I have listed names on the Cambridge Chronicle 1916 indexes]

Tribunal includes Gas Company; H.J. Gray men on war work 16 07 19b

Another Heavy List Of Casualties. Many additional casualties - the price which must be paid for all great victories - among Cambs. men at the Front, has come to hand during the past week. Mingled, however, with the expression of deep sympathy with the relatives of those who have fallen and the earnest hope for the recovery of the wounded, is a feeling of great pride in our gallant county lads and their valiant conduct in the Great Push. Fearlessly "and in a storm of shell, rifle bullets and machine gun bullets" to use the words of one of them - the lads of Cambridgeshire leaped out of their trenches when the word was given in the early hours of the morning of July 1. Many fell, but "most of the boys got there "and gloriously did they acquit themselves. Town and county have cause to be proud of the part played by their sons on this memorable July morning. And before then, too, and since. In addition to the local casualties published last week, further casualties include five killed in action (including Capt. the. Hon. Roland E. Phillips, Royal Fusiliers, only surviving son 0f Lord St. Davids), six died of wounds, one missing believed killed, four missing, including Capt. G. W. Deighton, son of Dr. Deighton, of Hills Road, Cambridge and over 40 wounded. CIP

https://archive.org/details/a-cambridgeshire-scrapbook-1897-1990-by-mike-petty.-july-2020

These stories have been brought together in one 4,000-page chronological ***Cambridgeshire Scrapbook.***
It records thousands of otherwise forgotten facts from the period 1897-1990 and can be searched by name and place

The Cambridgeshire Scrapbook 1897-1990 lists the stories in one chronological sequence and includes many items relating to Cambridge that are not featured in the Chronicle.

A Cambridgeshire Scrapbook 1897-1990

Facts, Features and (occasional) Fallacies
reported in Cambridge Newspapers

Summaries of Stories and Copies of Articles



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compiled by Mike Petty.
Revised Jan 2021.

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St Ives Scrapbook 1897 to 1990

Facts, Features and (occasional) Fallacies reported in Cambridge Newspapers
summarised by

Mike Petty

Most of these stories originally appeared in the Cambridge Daily/Evening/News or the Cambridgeshire Weekly News, its sister title.

They are supplemented by some articles published in the
Cambridge Independent Press or Cambridge Chronicle

Most were featured in my 'Looking Back' column in the Cambridge News from 1996-2014

The complete 'Cambridgeshire Scrapbook' of which this is a small section is published online at bit.ly/CambsCollection

I have digital and other copies of most of the stories summarised. Many are online on Flickr.

The original volumes are housed in the Cambridgeshire Collection at Cambridge Central Library where there are many other indexes dating back to 1770.

They also have detailed newspaper cuttings files on over 750 topics that have been compiled since the 1960s.

Newspapers sometimes get things wrong. I copy things out incorrectly. Do check
There are a multitude of spelling and layout errors. Please forgive or correct them
News never stops but this file was finished on 31 August 2016

I have produced 'Mini-Scrapbooks' for scores of communities and numerous topics including railways, aircraft and war

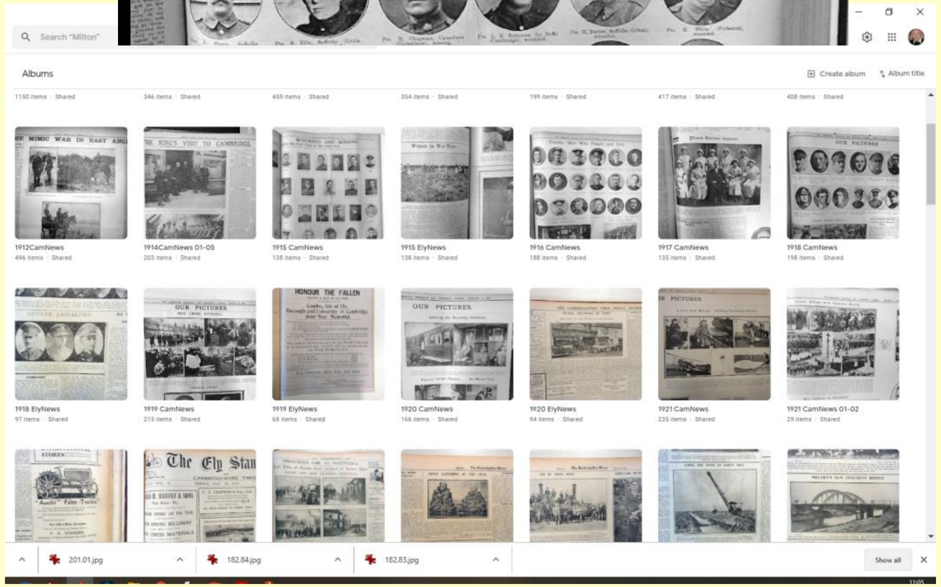
https://archive.org/details/MikesOnlineResources

Many entries are followed by a date code, YY-MM-DD.
There are copies of hundreds of the actual articles in files on Google Photos.

Cambridge Newspapers copied on Google Photos

1905-07 https://photos.app.goo.gl/gQeTRHFZ5bLcPBRq9
1910-13 https://photos.app.goo.gl/VG35idug3JLiuoNS7
1915 https://photos.app.goo.gl/kU75VKExfcgXvmSM9
1916 https://photos.app.goo.gl/zbvEA51wNdUuReJe6
1917 https://photos.app.goo.gl/N8hG7b8mtdLEnQqq9
1918 https://photos.app.goo.gl/ZJPqce6g6XsXcU7C8
1919 https://photos.app.goo.gl/5d5etstfNGhgSCUD9
1920 https://photos.app.goo.gl/wYx1hs7pEdKgJDES6
1930-39 https://photos.app.goo.gl/HdHm2pPD3WQ4uop57
1940 https://photos.app.goo.gl/NWAGudgZQxvVQ8oZA
1941 https://photos.app.goo.gl/j3v641j2fDYzA9Mu6
1942 https://photos.app.goo.gl/XeytJ1bxZzQhDBGL7
1943 https://photos.app.goo.gl/6ABpSgP4V8C5fhQYA
1944 https://photos.app.goo.gl/QKiE9AMnS66eckncA
1945 https://photos.app.goo.gl/Bkqzr3Eqt6jr4FZm6
1946 https://photos.app.goo.gl/ktmNPr5nhnKdkDGw9
1955-59 https://photos.app.goo.gl/KT4m35GrCKwRgaCG9
1960-64 https://photos.app.goo.gl/QBFPQG84j1F27Jko8
1965 https://photos.app.goo.gl/ARd6N1D4nkvs4msz8
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1969 https://photos.app.goo.gl/xWYfKYZ4DJgoRpWTA
1970 https://photos.app.goo.gl/jaDdF4b4HJnQ3Qn77
1971 https://photos.app.goo.gl/2ssMjDkJCkp5KZP4A
1972 https://photos.app.goo.gl/iPAh76skczQ8j1xE9
1980-89 https://photos.app.goo.gl/GJt5f8x4S2c3Rk9a8
1990 https://photos.app.goo.gl/YfJdJ6u15irw9aeb9

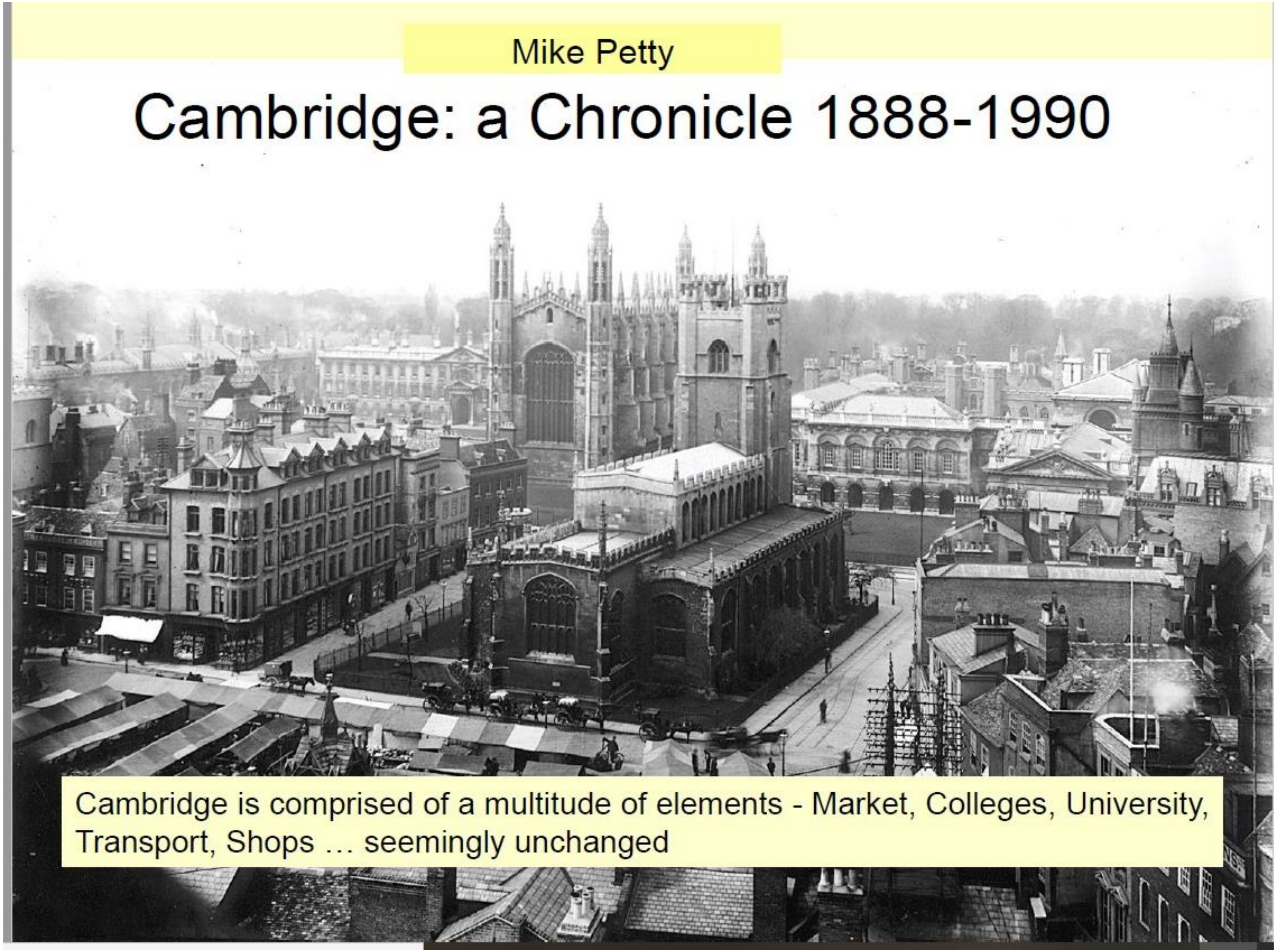




When compiling the 'Cambridgeshire Scrapbook' I took digital copies of thousands of the original articles as published in the paper from 1905.

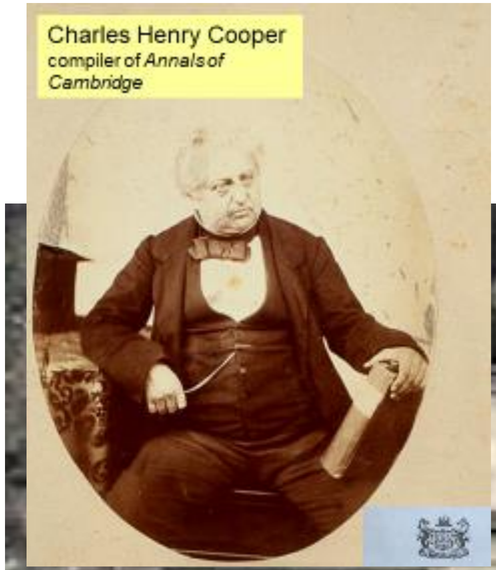
These are online on Google Photos.

You can click through stories appearing throughout the two World Wars as well as the depression of the 1930s, the 'forgotten 50s', 'swinging 60s' and through to 1990.

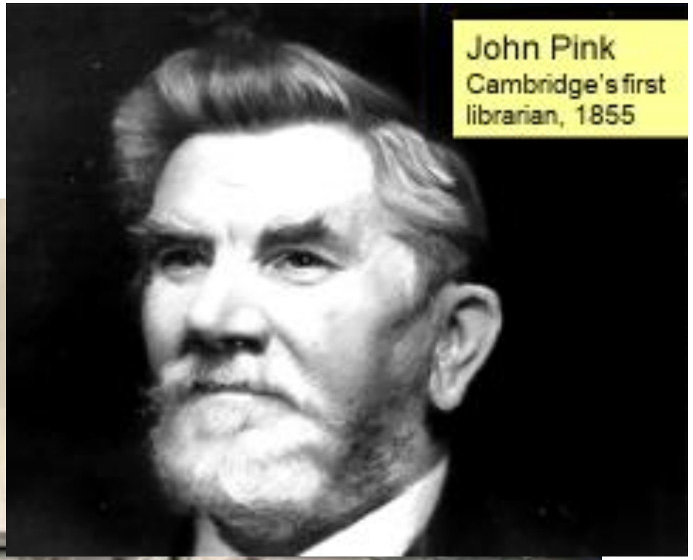


Cambridge 1888-1988: a Chronicle of an English University City is a 4,000-page record of 100 aspects of Cambridge covering topics including planning, transport, women, health etc. etc.

https://archive.org/details/cambridge-1888-1990-a-chronicle.-2021



The *Chronicle* reflects the ethos of the founders of the Cambridgeshire Collection: to record all aspects of local life and to share it freely with all.











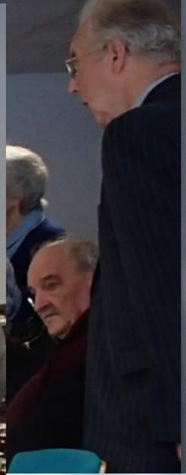
For more than 50 years I have tried to share an awareness of that wonderful resource, travelling to virtually every parish and speaking to up to four groups a week,





These days meetings are mainly digital





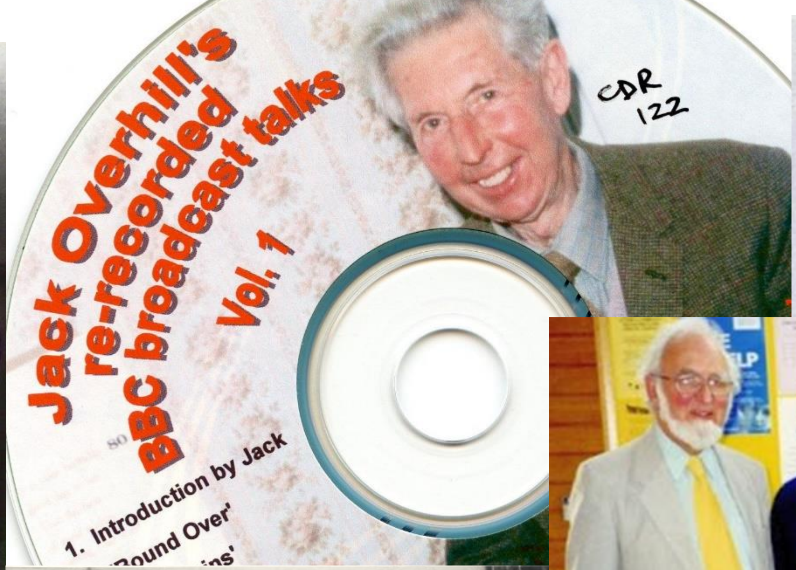


For thirteen years weekly ‘Fenland History on Friday’ meetings heard presentations from fenmen to academics with visits to the Collection and other areas of Cambridgeshire



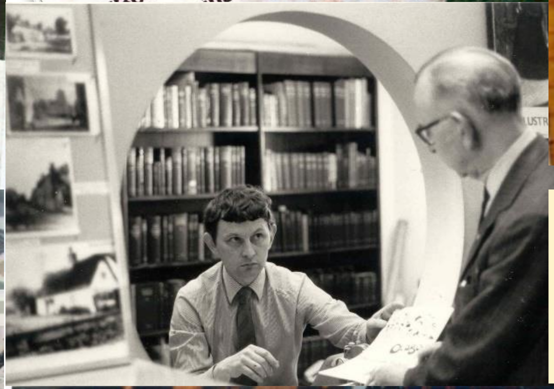












I have been privileged to meet and been able to assist thousands of folk to discover Cambridgeshire 'history' and help them share it with others



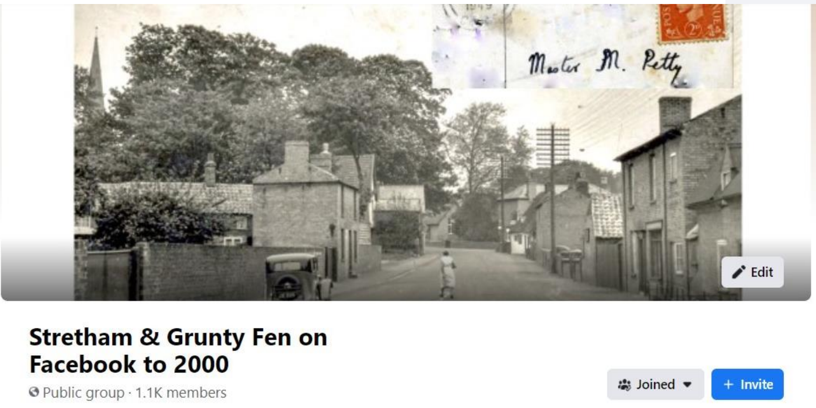


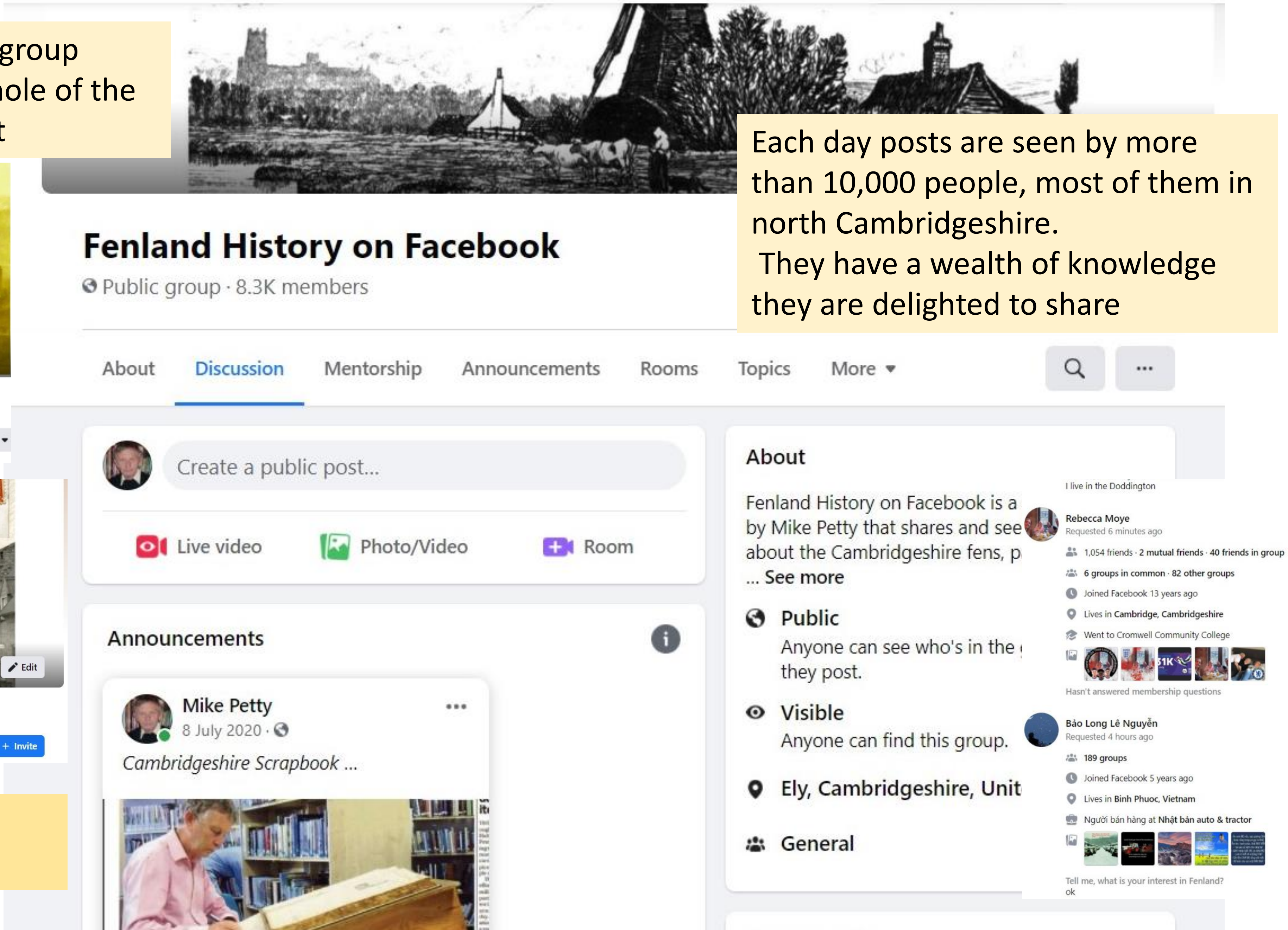


The Internet enables us to seek and share information online

Fenland History on Facebook is a group devoted to Cambridge and the whole of the County – not just the Flat Black bit



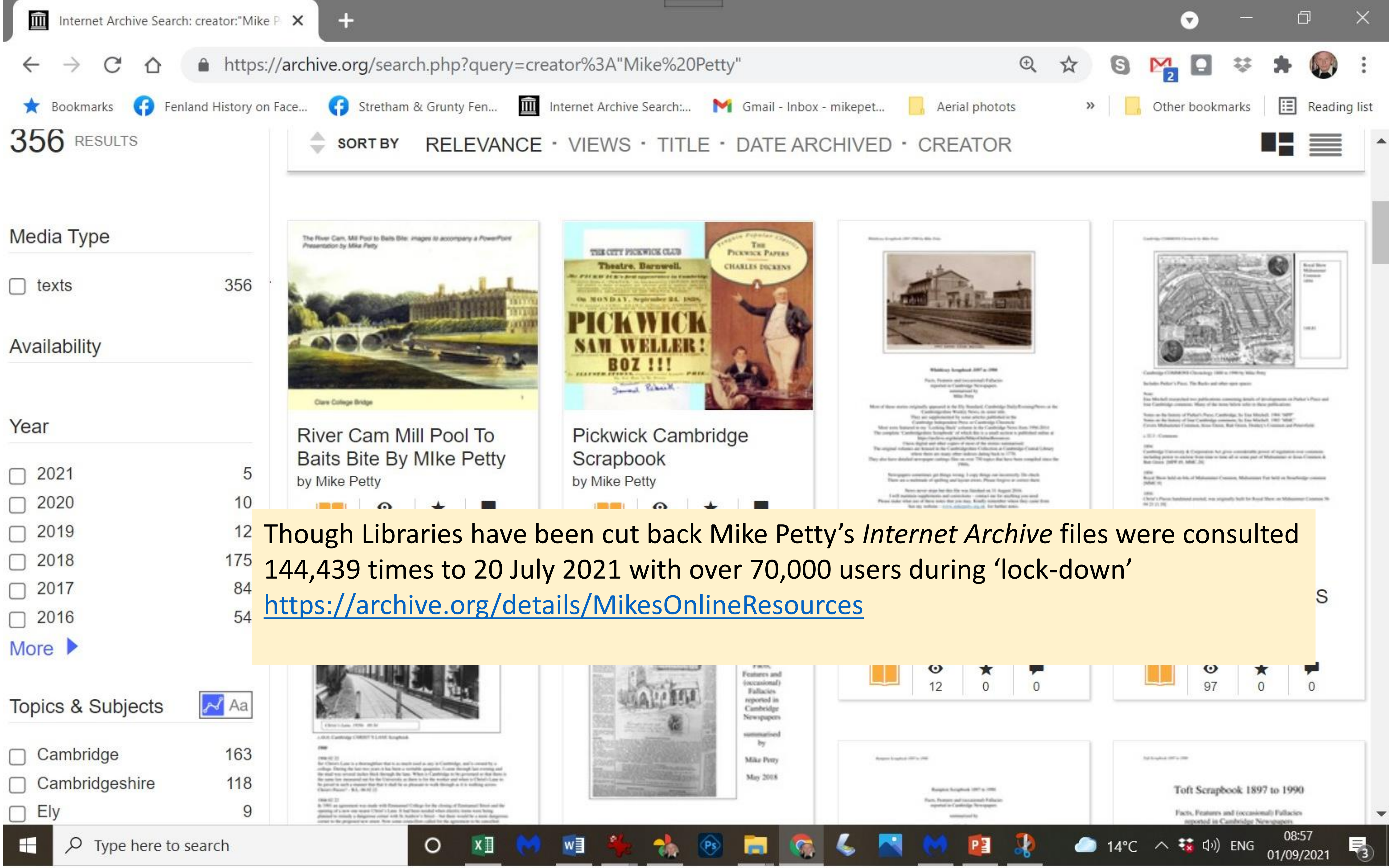




Each day posts are seen by more than 10,000 people, most of them in north Cambridgeshire.

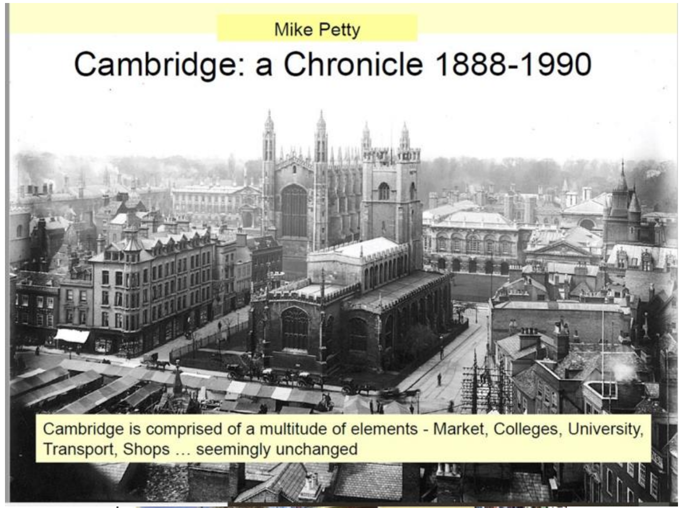
They have a wealth of knowledge they are delighted to share

You are most welcome seek and share your information with us.



Though Libraries have been cut back Mike Petty’s *Internet Archive* files were consulted 144,439 times to 20 July 2021 with over 70,000 users during ‘lock-down’
https://archive.org/details/MikesOnlineResources







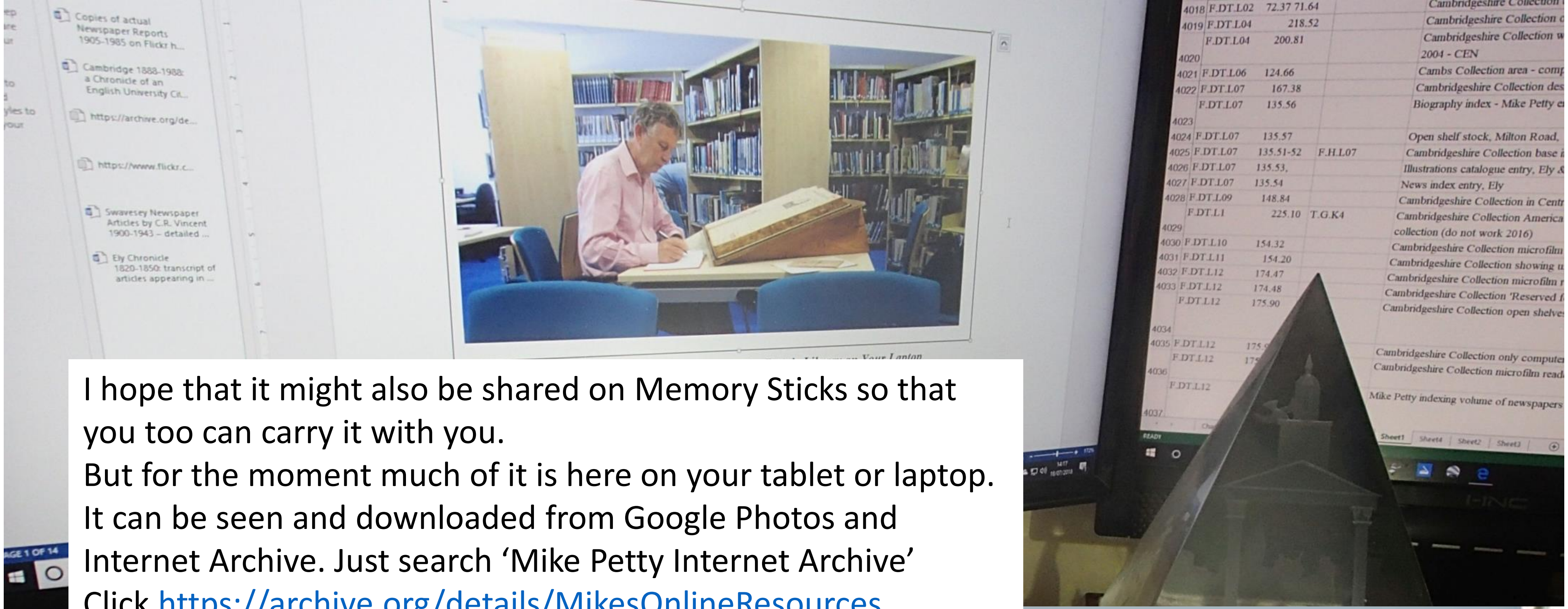


History shows that physical Libraries will be lost.

The material that I have compiled at Stretham is just a fraction of what is already in the Cambridgeshire Collection.

It is not wanted by Cambridgeshire Archives.

Cambridge University Library has offered some of it a home – perhaps in its store on the old Witchford airfield







I hope that it might also be shared on Memory Sticks so that you too can carry it with you.
But for the moment much of it is here on your tablet or laptop.
It can be seen and downloaded from Google Photos and Internet Archive. Just search ‘Mike Petty Internet Archive’
Click https://archive.org/details/MikesOnlineResources
Check out my website: www.mikepetty.org.uk
or email
mikepetty13a@gmail.com





I will continue to explore aspects of my home community and still hope to find postcards that have eluded me over the last 70+ years.

The longer you 'research' the more you find there is to learn. That is the fascination of 'local history' *Mike Petty*

www.mikepetty.org.uk mikepetty13a@gmail.com



